TOWN OF HUDSON

Board of Selectmen



12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6024 • Fax: 603-598-6481

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

November 22, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Meeting Room, Town Hall

Agenda

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u>
- 3. <u>ATTENDANCE</u>
- 4. PUBLIC INPUT

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Nomination

<u>Benson Park Committee</u> (1-member vacancy expiring 4/30/23, 1-alternate vacancy expiring 4/30/24, 1 alternate vacancy expiring 4/30/25)

Scott Anderson

B. Appointment

<u>Conservation Commission</u> - (2-member vacancies expiring 12/31/25, 1 alternate vacancy expiring 12/31/25)

Carl Murphy (incumbent alternate member)

6. <u>CONSENT ITEMS</u>

- A. <u>Assessing Items</u> none
- B. <u>Water/Sewer Items</u>
 - 1) Sewer Abatement S-UTL-23-05 Acct. #5358

C. <u>Licenses & Permits & Policies</u>

1) Pole Licenses - 25 new poles located throughout Town (see documentation for addresses)

2) Raffle Permit - Sparkling River Condo Association

D. Donations

1) Donation of \$300 from VFW Post 5791 to Hudson Fire Department

E. <u>Acceptance of Minutes</u>

- 1) Minutes of October 19, 2022
- 2) Minutes of October 20, 2022
- 3) Minutes of October 25, 2022
- 4) Minutes of November 1, 2022

F. <u>Calendar</u>

11/22	7:00	Budget Committee - School Budget Review - Buxton Meeting Room				
11/23	7:00	Planning Board - Buxton Meeting Room				
11/24	Нарр	y Thanksgiving - Town Hall Closed				
11/25	Than	ksgiving Recess - Town Hall Closed				
11/28	7:00	Sustainability Committee - Buxton Meeting Room				
11/29	7:00	Budget Committee - School Budget Review - Buxton Meeting Room				
11/30	7:00	Planning Board - Buxton Meeting Room				
12/01	3:30	Trustees of the Trust Funds - Buxton Meeting Room				
12/07	8:30	Highway Safety Committee - BOS Meeting Room				
12/07	7:00	Budget Committee - School Budget Review - Buxton Meeting Room				
12/08	7:00	Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton Meeting Room				
12/12	7:00	Cable Utility Committee - HCTV Meeting Room				
12/12	7:00	Conservation Commission - Buxton Meeting Room				
12/13	7:00	Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room				

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on November 1, 2022
 - 1) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to seal the minutes of the first nonpublic session held during the 10/25/22 Board of Selectmen meeting. Carried 4-0-1. Selectman McGrath abstained.
 - 2) Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to adjourn at 10:19 p.m. Carried 5-0.
- B. Hudson Community Power/Electric Aggregation Plan HEAC Decision

8. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

- A. November 8, 2022 General Election Debrief Town Moderator Discussion
- B. Warrant Article Need Veterans Tax Credits Assessing Decision
- C. Lowell Road Bridge Construction Services Engineering Decision
- D. Lowell Road Bridge Inspection Services -Engineering Decision

- E. Request to End Contract w/ Milton Caterpillar DPW Decision
- F. Replacement Front End Loader Lease Purchase DPW Decision
- G. Resignation of FF/AEMT & Request to Advertise HFD Decision
- H. Walmart Grant Acceptance HFD Decision
- I. Release of Discretionary Easement 274 Lowell Road TA Decision
- J. Warrant Article L Funding for Benson Park Renovation CRF TA Decision
- K. October 2022 Revenues & Expenditures TA Discussion
- L. Right to Know Policy Public Hearing Chairperson Discussion
- M. FY2024 Out of Budget Requests Chairperson Discussion

9. BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

10. REMARKS BY TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

11. <u>REMARKS BY SCHOOL BOARD</u>

12. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

13. NONPUBLIC SESSION

RSA 91-A:2, III (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining **RSA 91-A:3 II (a)** The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted

THE SELECTMEN MAY ALSO GO INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION FOR ANY OTHER SUBJECT MATTER PERMITTED PURSUANT TO RSA 91-A:3 (II).

14. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

Items for the next agenda, with complete backup, must be in the Selectmen's Office no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 8, 2022.



How may we help you?

Submission #71

Resend e-mails

Previous submission

Next submission

Submission information

Form: Board & Committee Application Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Wed, 11/16/2022 - 1:27pm 73.227.6.205

Date

Print

Wed, 11/16/2022

First Name

Scott

Last Name Anderson

Street Address 22 Weymouth Ct.

Home Phone 6173898559

Work Phone

E-mail Address: bucs24@aol.com

Education

A. S. Arborculture /Essex Agricultural Tech Institute

Occupation (or former occupation if retired)

Arborist/ Senior Horticulturist

Special Interests

Also interested in the Lower Merrimack Local Advisory Committee (LMLAC)

Professional/Community Activities

Reference

John Madden, Benson Park Comm. Chairman

Reason for Applying

To assist the management of one of Hudson's valuable assets and allow my horticultural background and experience to be used toward this parkland.

Please check the area in which you are interested in serving:

Member

Please select area of interest

Benson Park Committee

Areas of Expertise

- Environmental Planning
- Other

Are you a Hudson, NH resident?

yes

Previous submission Next submission





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Board & Co	FOWN OF HUDSON mmittees Vacancy Idson, NH Residents O	Application	RECEIVED NOV 1 5 2022 TOWN OF HUDSON SELECTMENS OFFICE
Name '	Street A	Address	
603-595-8512	60	3-545-1688	
Home Phone Number	Work P	hone Number	
Facilities Manuge Occupation (or former occupation, if retired	d)		
Bachelos's DE Finance Education/Special Interests			
Alternate on HCC Professional/Community Activities			
I enjoyed working on the Reason for applying		I would Like	e to continue.
<u>Donna Musphy</u> Dav U Reference(s)	wood		
Please check the area in which Selectmen's Offic	you are interested in server, 12 School Street, Hud		n to:
Member Al	ternate X	Reappointment	×
Benson Park Committee Cable Utility Committee Municipal Utility Committee Planning Board Sustainability Committee Zoning Board of Adjustment	_ <u>×</u>	Building Board of Apper Conservation Commission Nashua Regional Planni Recreation Committee Citizens Traffic Advisor	on ng Commission
	Area(s) of Expertise:		
Architecture/Construction Information Technology Finance	Commun	nental Planning ications	

Information contained on this form is available to the public and will be given to the press. The Town of Hudson exercises affirmative action in its employment/appointment practices. Applicants must be Hudson, NH residents. For additional information, call 886-6024. Appointees are required to complete a Financial Interest Disclosure Form (FIDF) in accordance with the Town Code. Hudson Resident: Yes No CIMplok @ gmail.Com e-mail address

5B

TOWN OF HUDSON



Sewer Utility Department

6B-1



12 School Street Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 (603-886-602

November 16, 2022

IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCE 092-13, the Municipal Utility Committee recommends to the Board of Selectmen that the following application(s) for abatement(s) of sewer utility charges be **APPROVED**:

S-UTL-23-05 (10/27/22) McGrath, 2 Manny Court m/l 140/034/000 Acct. #5358

The applicant requests abatement of sewer charges on the basis of late filing of an auxiliary meter card used to record outside water use. Request abatement of \$83.34 (70 x 1.1905). The request was received within 30 days of the 10/20/2022 billing.

Motion made by Dawn Lavacchia; second by David Leary "to recommend the Board of Selectmen approve abatement S-UTL-23-05 in the amount of \$83.34 for the reason given." Motion carried.

APPROVED:

Date _____

Town of Hudson Board of Selectmen



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

- DATE: November 16, 2022
- TO: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator Board of Selectmen
- FROM: Elvis Dhima, P.E., Town Engineer
- RE: Petition and Pole License for twenty-five (25) new Poles on Various Roads in the Town of Hudson, NH, as per attached for Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC and PSNH d/b/a Eversource Energy

The attached twenty-five Pole Petition and Licenses from Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC and PSNH are for new poles at various locations throughout Hudson. The Public Works and Engineering Departments have both reviewed them and are recommending these Pole Petitions for approval.

Thank you.

Motion:

To approve the Pole License and Petitions from Consolidated Communications and PSNH for twenty-five (25) new poles located at various locations throughout Hudson.

Enclosures



TOWN OF HUDSON



Engineering Department

12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6008 • Fax: 603-594-1142

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

- TO: Elvis Dhima, P.E., Town Engineer Jess Forrence, DPW Director
- FROM: Doreena Stickney, Administrative Aide
- DATE: November 9, 2022
- RE: Petition and Pole License for twenty-five (25) new Poles on Various Roads in the Town of Hudson, NH, as per attached for Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC and PSNH d/b/a Eversource Energy

Attached please find twenty-five (25) Pole License Petitions from Consolidated Communications and PSNH for new poles on various roads in Hudson. Please sign below to verify that you have reviewed and approve these licenses.

Thank you.

W Director orrence, DF

Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer

Attachments

PETITION AND POLE LICENSE PETITION

Concord, New Hampshire To the Selectmen of Hudson, New Hampshire.

Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC and PUBLIC SERVICE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY, desire a license to erect and maintain poles and structures, with wires, cables, conduits and devices thereon, together with sustaining, strengthening and protecting fixtures along, across and under the following highways in said municipality:

The licensing of 25 poles on VARIOUS ROADS in the Town of Hudson, New Hampshire, as per attached.

CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND COMPANY, LLC

PUBLIC SERVICE OF NEW HAMSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Right-of-Way Dept. By

By _____ Right-of-Way Dept.

LICENSE

Upon petition of the CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND COMPANY, LLC and PUBLIC SERVICE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY, it appearing that the public good so requires, it is hereby

ORDERED

Date:_ October 11, 2022

That CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND COMPANY, LLC and PUBLIC SERVICE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY be and hereby are granted a license to erect and maintain poles and structures, with wires, cables, conduits and devices thereon, together with sustaining, strengthening and protecting fixtures, in the highways covered by said petition. All of said wires except such as are vertically attached to poles and structures shall be placed in accordance with the National Safety Code in effect at the time of petition and/or license is granted. The approximate location of the poles and structures shall be shown on plans marked CCI LICENSE FORM and EVERSOURCE attached to and made a part thereof.

Selectmen

By a vote of

Town of Hudson, New Hampshire

Selectmen

Attest

Town Clerk

Selectmen of the Town of Hudson, New Hampshire

Received and entered in the records of the Town of Hudson, New Hampshire,

Book _____, Page _____.

Date _____

Hudson

In accordance with the requirements of RSA 72:23, I (b) this licensee(s) and any other entity now or hereafter using or occupying municipal property pursuant to this license shall be responsible for the payment of, and shall pay, all properly assessed real and personal property taxes no later than the due date. Failure of the licensee(s) to pay duly assessed personal and real property taxes when due shall be cause to terminate this license.

Furthermore, in accordance with the requirements of RSA 72:23, I (b), the licensee(s) and any other entity using and/or occupying property of the municipality within the Town of Hudson pursuant to this license shall (unless otherwise exempt under RSA 72) be obligated to pay real and personal property taxes on structures or improvements added by the licensee(s) or any other entity using or occupying property of the municipality within the Town of Hudson pursuant to this license.

The license granted herein, and the duty to pay properly assessed real and personal property taxes, shall apply to any other entity, now or hereafter, using or occupying municipal property pursuant to this license. The duty to pay properly assessed real and personal property taxes shall apply both to the owner and joint owner of any such pole or conduit, or an attacher to or user of said pole or conduit, pursuant to permission or by agreement of the owner of said pole or conduit. Within 90 days of the adoption of this amendment, the licensee(s) and any other users, occupying or using municipal property pursuant to this license, shall be responsible for notifying the Clerk of the Town of Hudson as to the use of the poles and conduits hereby licensed. Such notification shall include the following information: the identification number and location of all poles and conduits being used or occupied by any additional parties other than the named licensee; the property and equipment attached; and, the name and address of each such party using, attaching to, or occupying said poles or conduits.

As a condition of this license, the licensee shall, on an annual basis, beginning on February 1, 2015, provide the Clerk of the Town of Hudson with a complete list of each entity attaching to, or using any pole or conduit licensed hereunder. Said list shall be updated annually and shall include the following information: the identification number and location of all poles and conduits being used or occupied by any additional parties other than the named licensee; the property and equipment attached; and, the name and address of each such party using, attaching to, or occupying said poles or conduits. In the event that attachments and/or equipment is removed during the course of the year, written notification, containing the specifics thereof, shall be provided to the Town Clerk.

The changes to the within license set forth in the preceding paragraphs shall take effect April 1, 2014 and shall remain in effect until changed in accordance with the requirements of RSA 231:161163.

		HUDSON MUNICIPAL			
JOB	ROW CHILD	EON	ROAD	読み者	POLES
349451	22-2475	21-NHO-120619	GOWING RD	1	CCI 295/112.5 (ESNH 139/32Y)
348781	22-2476	21-NHO-121147	DRACUT RD	1	CCI 1024/5-1 (ESNH 130/46Y)
349018	22-2478	21-NHO-121977	TRIGATE RD	2	CCI 293A/7-4 (ESNH 355/7-4)
348306	22-2479	21-NHO-120017	ADELAIDE ST	1	CCI 356/17 (ESNH 6/33)
347428	22-2480	21-NHO-119167	FRONT ST	1	CCI 276E/6 (ESNH 190/50-5A)
345335	22-2482	21-NHO-117111	WENTWORTH DR	1	CCI 29001/87.5 (ESNH 116/8Z)
343049	22-2483	20-NHO-114560	ALVIRNE DR	1	CCI 2666/13 (ESNH 9/11)
342986	22-2484	20-NHO-114522	SPEARE RD	1	CCI 328/9S (ESNH ?)
357016	22-2485	21-NHO-124757	WEBSTER ST	1	CCI 266/99 (ESNH 3/11)
356893	22-2486	21-NHO-124644	ADELAIDE ST	1	CCI 356/18 (ESNH 635/35)
356498	22-2487	21-NHO-124494	ROBINSON RD	1	CCI 315/2Y (ESNH 189/2Y)
352442	22-2488	21-NHO-122623	WEBSTER ST	1	CCI 266/102 (ESNH 3/103)
344282	22-2489	20-NHO-115856	LOWELL RD	1	CCI 290/138.5 (ESNH 209/139Y)
343546	22-2490	20-NHO-115575	LOWELL RD	2	CCI 290/62.5 (ESNH 209/63Y) & 290/64.5 (ESNH 209/65Y)
340587	22-2491	20-NHO-111741	LOWELL RD	1	CCI 290/87.5 (ESNH 209/88)
334568	22-2492	19-NHO-104738	LINDA ST	1	CCI 2909/9 (ESNH 200/6)
342095	22-2493	20-NHO-113518	SPEARE RD	1	CCI 328/8 (ESNH 315B/8)
337171	22-2497	20-NHO-107406	HAWKVIEW DR	1	CCI 9900/10 (ESNH 158/10)
360984	22-2498	22-NHO-132026	GOWING RD	1	CCI 295/1085 (ESNH 139/28Y)
362638	22-2502	22-NHO-130219	HIGHLAND ST	1	CCI 272/24-1 (ESNH 167/44-1)
360319	22-2503	22-NHO-127407	FLAGSTONE DR	1	CCI 29002B/2
359488	22-2504	22-NHO-126649	HILL ST	1	CCI 470/6 (ESNH 168/12)
363788	22-2507	22-NHO-131497	CENTRAL ST	1	CCI 276/Y (ESNH 61A/2Y)
				25	







































CCI License Form









RECEIVED NOV 1 6 2022 TOWN OF HUDSON 6C-2 **RAFFLE PERMIT** Hudson, New Hampshire Name of Organization: SPARKING POULEr Windo Minium Arsacia 10 Address: 44 Prive tow NH 0305 Silal Association RIVER Grade ARKIN St Raffie Benefit of: Murch"-date to be determined 2 Date & Time of Raff HUDSON NO 0 7057 Labord Ruffle to be held at: Go MMUN coller Prizes IChelin NZ Cookoff Ch. li MUTATS ONE: ITALIAN NIGHT an & 111 3 3/23 Date of Ticket Sales: smust be after dote of Board of Selectmen opproval) Applicant's Signature/Address/Phone Number Hudson UH lone 0 3051 -59 by Approved on: HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN Chairman Selectman Selectman Selectman Selectman (Fax completed form to 603-598-6481 or e-mail to hypissearben@hudsonnh.gov, with Raffle Permit in subject line.)


Social

SINGO Great turnout and fun time! John us the next time on November 15. Doors open at 6 and sales will be to 6:45. Games begin at 7. Bingo will be held monthly. Watch for dates.

XFINITY APPRECIATION DINNER November 17th Xinity will be having a thank you dinner for Speking River, Details to come.

HOT COGOA Come check out our Christmas tree on the evening of November 30th and have a cup of hos cocoal

COOK/E WALK Will be held on Sunday December 4th. This will be a fun and fundmiser. Looking for volunteer bakers. Contact activities team.

HOLIDAY PARTY will be held Sunday December 11th at 1PM. You can get a ticket from one of your activity team or by emailing sparklingriveractivity@gmail.com

Team members include: Chrol Bartlett, Chris & Jack Madden, Nancy Vachon, Barbarn Fortier, Maryann Cintolo, Jo Inzenga, Faith McMichael, Liz Paszko, Simonne Buckley, Lorraine Serino, Diane Sherman and Linda Sartori. They are \$35 and include chicken parmesan, chicken ziti & Brocolli, salad, green beans, coffee and deasert. There will be a gift swap (\$10 wrapped item) and dance music.

Italian Date Night Coming In January. Join us for a night of great Italian Food and wonderful music. Tickets will be on sale after Christmas.

uperbowl Party in February. Details to come.

hili Cook off in March. Details to come.

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	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	RECEIVE
		NOV 1 6 2022
	Contraction of the second seco	TOWN OF HUDSON SELECTMEN'S OFFICE
	son, New Hampshire	
Name of Organization: SPARKII Address: 14 Dore NM Rattle Denetit of: SPARKIING Date & Time of Rattle: DILSC - MOD Rattle to be held at: COM PHILN IN Prizes: CELIDENTS TO COM	He River Gond Lane Hudson River Gondomu thy pros-once w Y Easter 44 Leg	NIMM AS FOCIATION
Date of Ticket Sales: MONTHL	Dec 22- Dec after date of Board of Selectmen	approvaly
	Applicant's Signature	Address/Phone Number
	Address	PASZEO
	Applicant's Printed Nam	PHSZED
	Applicant's Printed Nam Address Phone Number	PASIE
Approved on:b	Address	PHSZE
HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Applicant's Printed Nam Address Phone Number	Pasito
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HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Applicant's Printed Nam Address Phone Number	Pasito
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~	TOWN OF HU FIRE DEPARTN 39 FERRY STREET, HUDSON, NEW	IENT TOWN OF HUDSON SELSCTMENS OFFICE HAMPSHIRE 03051		
Emerger Busines Fax		6D-2 Scott J. Tice Chief of Department		
	TO: Kara Roy Chairperson, Board of Selectmen			
FR:	Scott J. Tice MT			
DT:	November 15, 2022			
RE:	Donation Acceptance – November 22, 2022 BOS Public Agenda			

Please place the following item on the above-indicated agenda from the Fire Department:

On November 14, 2022 we were notified that the VFW Post 5791 voted to approve a donation in the amount of \$300.00 for the Hudson Fire Department in appreciation for our help with Wreaths Across America. We would request the Board of Selectmen accept this donation with thanks.

Upon your acceptance we will forward the VFW Post 5791 a thank you for this donation.

These monies shall be deposited into the Fire Department's General Donation fund.

Motion:

To authorize the Fire Chief to accept the \$300.00 donation from the VFW Post 5791 to be deposited into the Fire Department's General Donation fund for future use.

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the October 19, 2022 Meeting

- 1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> by Chairperson Roy the meeting of October 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Buxton Community Room at Town Hall
- 2. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u> led by Executive Assistant, Jill Laffin

3. <u>ATTENDANCE</u>

Board of Selectmen: Brett Gagnon, Bob Guessferd, Marilyn McGrath, Kara Roy

Excused Absence: Dave Morin

<u>Staff/Others</u>: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant; Rick Alpers, Primex Group Facilitator

4. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

A. Board of Selectmen Visioning Session

Chairperson Roy introduced Rick Alpers from Primex who will be lead us in our visioning session tonight. All right, so I'll turn it over to you. Mr. Alpers began by saying, thank you. Good evening. It's great to be here tonight and thanks for having me down. Just to, you know, a little bit of an update. Who is Primex? Why do we do this? Why do insurance companies like this get into this line of work? And people ask that sometimes. And, you know, New Hampshire is a public risk pool in New Hampshire. They've been around since 1979, providing nearly every town, city, school and county in New Hampshire, minus Manchester and Nashua, with their insurance services, property liability, workers compensation and all that risk management training that goes along with it claims processing in-house. And we've been pleased to partner with Hudson for many years now along that, long, that line.

And so people like I said at the beginning, why would Primex venture down this road? We love working with elected bodies like yourselves, governing boards. Because what we find is governing boards that work well together it trickles down through the organization. Governing bodies that work well with their administrator, manager, a superintendent, whatever it might be, it usually flows well through the rest of the organization. So what we find from a risk perspective is if we could help assist in any way like that, it's better for you as a member and it's better for the pool. When there's chaos in communities, there's chaos on the risk management side generally is what we see. We can see that correlation. So that's not why we're here tonight, which is good news. We're here to sort of just help you sort of look ahead vision-wise. And so I want to spend a little bit of time tonight. This is a small enough group that we probably won't take a whole ton of time, to be honest with you. Usually we've got much larger groups and there all sorts of voices and it takes a little bit of time.

Mr. Alpers went on to say, but what's different here tonight is that we're not setting goals in a sense. We might come back and do that down the road. But we're really looking at the vision of the community. Just taking a moment, and sometimes if you've been around, you've been doing it long enough that sometimes it's always it's the next fire. We're just putting out the next fire. It's moving to this project, this one's coming down the pike, and sometimes we don't have a lot of time to just sit and reflect and actually think; strategically think about where we want to go as a community. We have an idea, right? We have a little bit of an idea. We have some guidance at times, but sometimes we struggle as maybe as governing boards and elected and just really looking at, all right, how do we drive this ship and how long is it going to take? Because running local government and steering it is something like a battleship at times. You can't do it overnight. We talked about that before it started. Right? It's not immediate, but it takes time and commitment. And you can do it and you can be successful, but you just patience comes along with it as well.

So what I really want to talk about here tonight, I just wanted to sort of. Have you done anything like this before? I think I talked to Steve and I think it's been a number of years since this has happened. The Town Administrator replied I seem to recall once, many years ago. I don't think anybody in this

group participated that would have probably been in the mid 00's. Mr. Alpers then said so maybe just can we go around the room and just let me know how long you've been on the Board and anything like that. How long in the community?

The Board went around the table introducing themselves saying: Brett Gagnon been here about a year and a half, so. Bob Guessferd just over a year. Kara Roy, about three and a half. Marilyn McGrath A lifetime. Mr. Alpers replied, I think you mentioned that to me before. and thank you for doing what you do. and what you all do is just not easy work some days. You know, sometimes you get a room full of people who are a little bit fired up and want answers and have questions. And it's not the easiest thing to do to sit up there and sort of take sometimes that constructive criticism.

So you saw my email. Hopefully, I think that Jill sent out to you about that little paragraph. I'm starting to get the juices flowing, but let's have a conversation first before we start putting things down on paper. Let's talk about what's going well in Hudson right now. Let's just think about that for a second. Look that sit in. Sometimes we don't reflect on some of the accomplishments that maybe you've had as a Board, as a community, and maybe in recent years. What's going well for the community right now? Selectman Guessferd replied, I mean, the way I think... I think the day to day running of the town of the different departments, I think most people would say and I would agree that it runs pretty, pretty well. Maybe not I mean, maybe it could be more efficient, but I think it's going pretty well. I think our citizens get good value for their dollar in terms of the service that they get.

Selectman Gagnon then said top on that, you know, I, I see a lot of good things going. I think a lot of our department heads, although I don't have experience with other towns, from what I hear from senior members and from residents, you know, DPW does a phenomenal job with what they're given. You know, we run a very or Steve certainly runs a very tight ship as far as finances. But the value we get out of it for DPW, roads plowed, maintenance roads, the police station, the fire station, all of our major assets, if you will, are seemingly up to snuff. Very good. Running well, I think that's pretty impressive.

Mr. Alpers, who was listing the Boards responses on a pad of paper said, don't mind my chicken scratch. Took many years to perfect this chicken scratch, but it does help me when I get back to the office and craft reports. What else? Chairperson Roy said so I think that we have a lot of community support. There's a lot of organizations that help the town, I guess, perform the way that it does, if that makes sense. Selectman Guessferd asked, like volunteerism? To which the Chair replied, yeah, like volunteerism. And just kind of like for me, the pandemic really brought forth that it just was just a lot of community there that did amazing things without necessarily the government. You know what I mean? Selectman Guessferd then said yeah, organizations around town pitch in to make this a better place.

The Town Administrator said well we have a nationally accredited police department. It's probably the mid 00's. We are a desirable location for police employees to come work. That's definitely an attraction for getting quality candidates, gualified candidates. And we are very particular. If you get employed here as a police officer and a lot of other positions, you've really made the grade by coming here. We have a very highly trained Fire/EMS service with paramedic level on the ambulance side of things. I think they're very highly trained and highly skilled. We have a pretty good size older population in town, as evidenced by the 55 plus communities that have been built in the last dozen years. And people always speak to and I think you mentioned it when you come across the border from Nashua to Hudson, you know, when you're in Hudson, because the roads are way better off than they are in Nashua, particularly when it comes to winter maintenance. So for the relatively modest sized crew, I think they get a lot done. From a service perspective, I mean, we pick up your trash curbside. We you know, we sweep the roads. We do a lot of infrastructure with our in-house forces. So I think there's a lot of bang for your buck that way. And we typically have one of the better and I say better, lower, tax rates in the general area. So I think citizens appreciate that. Nobody likes paying taxes. We all pay them here. We don't get a discount, but we try to get the most for the money, the best bang for the buck.

The Town Administrator went on to say and I, I generally think people respect the work that everybody does here. I think that's a that's a fair statement. They're not coming in with pitchforks and trying to burn the place down. I think, you know, we do try to do more with less. Just a couple of small other examples. We run two utilities. We run a water utility with 6,500 customers, and we have a sewer utility with over 5,000 customers. We haven't had a rate increase on the water since we bought it 23 years ago. So we're running a very efficient utility. Same could be said for the sewer. So if you are a sewer or water customer, your rates haven't changed in many years. And we've done

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infrastructure, capital, a lot of infrastructure through our engineering department, our DPW folks, we just completed some transfer station work, makes it much more efficient for the for the general public who utilizes that facility. It makes it more compliant with the EPA. I mean, I would say that we are trying to stay and keep up with all of the new requirements that are out there, whether they're environmental, safety, efficiency, you know, small but mighty is maybe the way to look at it.

Selectman Gagnon then said I think the key word is infrastructure. I think I think Hudson, I think yourself, especially in your department heads do a very good job of keeping up infrastructure. The Town Administrator went on to say, it's sometimes it's a battle because, again, people don't like to spend money. We were fortunate to get ARPA, American Rescue Plan funds that were able to tick off some pretty good sized items on the checklist. So I think that's been very helpful. But, you know, generally speaking, once they're educated on it, the residents have been pretty good about...they voted for the police station bond after a couple of years. We're going to be expanding the building where the police station is. When it was built originally 25 years ago, it was probably undersized for the needs and now it's definitely undersized. So we're going to have an expansion after a couple of tries. The voters approved that. So I think there was a lot of sales pitch that went into that. There was a lot of education to the public and it's a need that didn't go away. And I think everybody did a really good job working together to get that infrastructure, that critical infrastructure. Because we know what policing is like nowadays. It's not an easy profession, you know, and again, with the accredited force we have, we just want to make sure we keep it up to the standards. Mr. Alpers replied, being CALEA certified is great! There's a small discount for that. The Town Administrator replied, I think it helps on the insurance.

Chairperson Roy said I think overall we have professional employees. I don't know, I can't speak for my other Board members, but I get very few complaints about how how employees conduct themselves when somebody comes into Town Hall. So I think I think that speaks well to the town that, you know, they're professional and. Selectman Guessferd said I'd agree with professionalism too.

Mr. Alpers then asked, what else is going well? Let's look outside regular operations. Look outside regular operations. Department level operations. anything else? Is it development? Is it economic development? Is it conservation? The world goes round and there what else is going well? The Town Administrator replied well, there's been some pretty interesting conservation purchases of recent. I think there's been some flux or some more effort in that area to preserve some of the space that's out there. I can think of Pelham Road and maybe some of the other things we purchased. Selectman Gagnon replied, yeah reasonable. The last two or three years. There has been a thrust in that division and I think that spawned from, as we've said, our vocal residents. So I personally, as someone who really supports that kind of effort, I think that's a great direction that we have a lot of work to do, but it's it's momentum and momentum is everything.

Chairperson Roy added, I think programs that we provide in the Recreation Department and at the Library, they're ever expanding and kind of across the board as far as age and things like that. Selectman Guessferd added, they contribute to our community a great deal. They're very, very important. There's lots for people to do and choose from. The Town Administrator added, from across all ages of the spectrum. We have a Senior Center which was opened now ten years, some number of years we have a dedicated senior center. The library was constructed within a dozen years? The Chair replied, 2009. The Town Administrator went on to say a brand new facility there, which was generously donated to the town. The Chair said yeah, two brothers. The Town Administrator added, two brothers donated the funding for that. For the library. Yeah. Yeah. Pretty significant. So they offer a wealth of programs. As somebody mentioned, the Recreation Department just keeps offering for all different strata, not just sports, other programmatic that I think is very popular in the community.

Selectman Guessferd added in addition to that, we have, although we've lost the newspaper that we had in town, our HCTV is amazing and they do really great work and bring a lot of value again to the community and allow people who have access to it, which is I think almost everyone in one way or the other, the ability to participate one way or the other. If they can't come to meetings, they can stream them like there's people watching tonight. They also have expanded to sports and things like that. They do some sports programming for some of the games at the high school and but they are really contributing factor to this community. I don't think our community would be as, as as great a place if it wasn't for the way that they've grown that. I mean, it's really been a home grown asset that

started very small and has continued to grow. And it's a great way for us to communicate and a great way for people to learn things too.

Selectman Gagnon then said to piggyback on that. Everything is correct. But I think what makes it stand out is most towns have your local cable television. I mean, nobody really watches it. I mean, it's pretty boring dry stuff. Chairperson Roy said people do here, I'm not going to lie. Selectman Gagnon replied, no in Hudson. Yes. Because, I mean, Hudson Cable Television does, I think, a phenomenal job, not just getting the information out, but how they do it. I mean, they have a full broadcast studio, they edit video, they do green screens. I mean, when you walk into their studio, it is highly impressive what they can actually build. And even watching some local television on the other towns comes nowhere close. I mean, they are primetime ready. Honestly, it's very, very impressive what they can do. And it's not just recording meetings. They offer services to the public. So if you are an individual and you're a resident and you want to make a show, we have someone, Flo Nicolas, who just decided to make a show. They helped her make it. It's gone. It's gone kind of crazy. Everyone, you know, it's really important. She's bringing in guests. She's now on NPR News because of her show. So it just goes to show how professional their result is.

After adding these items to the list, Mr. Alpers asked anything else? To which the Town Administrator replied, we're in a great location. Well, that's a double edged sword, though, right? We're in a you know, we're in a certainly in a great location where you can get proximity to the mountains, the proximity to the ocean. You get down to Boston, you get Nashua, you got Manchester. It's great. It's also a negative sometimes. Everybody wants to be here.

Selectman Gagnon said I think that is probably for me, why I'm here tonight. I think Hudson is perfect. It's got beautiful landscapes, hidden gems in the woods, conservation we talked about. But because it's so interesting to live here in low taxes and is drawing in, to me again personally, we're starting to grow without a direction. And that's why I'd like to have your services to figure out how can we keep growing respectfully, but really keep the town with some character and keep those things that bring people here. Cuz if we don't take control of that in a little way, not not governmental overreach, but really having some structure and just kind of saying, oh, let the town do what the town wants to do, capitalism. I think we're gonna, we're gonna squash the benefits of this town.

The Town Administrator said we forgot to mention Benson Park. Selectman Gagnon replied, oh, absolutely. The Town Administrator then explained, so many years ago, there was Benson's Wild Animal Farm. You've probably...maybe you went there. I don't know. But that's been closed for many years. So we we took a basically got a deal from the state. It's a passive recreation area that's enormously popular with Selectman Gagnon said regionally., to which the Town Administrator agreed. It's got a dog park; it's got a Benson. We have a steel from the towers. We have a 9/11 memorial. A couple of legacy buildings there that people can go reminisce and a lot of walking trails. You know, everybody has their prom photos there. I mean, it's just a I mean, I'm not just talking Hudson. I'm talking everybody. Chairperson Roy added if you go there on a nice Saturday you'll probably see a majority of Massachusetts license plates. The Town Administrator went on to say, and you know, the town's maintaining its specifically the DPW guys and a lot of volunteer work has gone into that. So that's a crown jewel and a lot of people come and that's their exposure to Hudson.

Selectman McGrath then said I'll add one thing that everyone else has failed to mention, and that's that with Benson's and the there's a 9/11 memorial there that the selectman that's not here tonight participated and led the effort to have that done. They went down to New York, got steel from the one of the buildings that collapsed, brought it back up here, built this really impressive memorial to 9/11. And I think that that's probably one of the most impressive things that the Town of Hudson has had happen for it. It you know, Benson's was nice to it's a passive aggressive, passive, (laughter) passive aggressive that's probably what I'm thinking. But it's a passive park. It's not there can't be any motorized vehicles in there. It's it's you know, it's just a park walking park and people enjoy it. But I think the 9/11 memorial is probably the most impressive thing about that park and the fact that one of our firefighters who's absent tonight because of family matters, he led the effort and they went like I said, they went down to New York, picked up the beam and brought it back up here and had it had it put in the park. So it's really impressive. And I think that that's that's the one thing that everybody seems to have lost in the discussion about Benson's. You know, that 9/11 happened to the United States, to our government, to I don't know how many people perished in that horrible event. And to think that some of our firefighters went to went about to go and seek that out and bring it back to us so that we could remember that event every year and every year on 9/11. This is an event I think I haven't been able to go for the last couple of years because I'm stuck in this thing. But. I think Alvirne

and the high school, the music department, they've been singing songs there for the last couple of years, patriotic songs. There's a nice remembrance ceremony. So I think that that's probably, for me, the most impressive thing. Mr. Alpers added this to the list.

Selectman Guessferd agreed saying it brings the whole community together. The Town Administrator added, it's typically well attended. And again, I think I don't know what the rest of the state does, but we always do it every year on 9/11 and it always gets a good turnout and a lot of community participation.

Selectman Gagnon then said we have a long list, but I think the two things that pop up from both those conversations is, one, I think the band in town is a is at least a state, if not a nationally achieved. Selectman Guessferd said know. Known band. I mean the music program at Alvirne High School is amazing. But yeah, they do represent the town well. So we have, you know, they're a visual thing in parades and and around the around they do things around the area, not just for 9/11, but a lot of different events and things like that. Both the choral group the typically the B Naturals and and the band to to kind of piggyback on the memorial I've been kind of thinking about does this is this something that is makes sense or not makes sense but that contributes or is is belongs on this list? But I think it does. As a veteran myself, the one thing I know about this town and that I can always count on, is is the level of patriotism in this town. And the 9/11 memorial is probably the most visible aspect of that. But but even before that, this town has always had a very strong patriotic sort of bend to it. Our veteran's organizations in town, VFW, American Legion, are very, very involved in in making sure that there are ceremonies at appropriate times during the year for different things. And they run typically run the Memorial Day parade and that sort of thing. So, I mean, again, that's another part of I think what makes for me this community an excellent community to live.

Chairperson Roy then said, I would say also probably because it wasn't always this way, but the relationship that exists between the Town and the School District has just seen a vast amount of improvement over the last four or five years. Yeah, so it helps us have a little bit more of a sort of symbiotic community.

Mr. Alpers asked, anything else? Let's flip it around now. We're going to flip it around, which is and I get it. And I'm not saying that you speak negatively or but you have to look at what's good and also take a look at what might be a little stale, what needs a little bit of work. I'll leave it like that. I'm not going to say what's broken and what's not. You know what's a little stale? What needs a little work? And then that can be policies. That can be rules. That can be ordinances, that can be development. That could be whatever you think it is that's affecting this community that, you know, I think what Brett said tonight, how do you how do you control growth the best you can, in his view, so you don't lose a certain part of character that Hudson maybe has? So what what's what needs attention? The Town Administrator said traffic. Mr. Alpers replied, I read that in the last minutes. The Town Administrator replied, yeah, so there are three basically major routes that come through town. Route 102, 3A and 111. And not just Hudson, but everybody in the surrounding towns comes through Hudson to get to where they're going. Or at least that's the way it feels. So you've got folks migrating from Windham, Litchfield, Londonderry, Pelham, trying to get to Nashua, trying to get to Route 3. So you have just a lot of traffic coming through town, particularly at commute times. You go out there now and 10:00pm you won't see anybody, but you. Selectman McGrath spoke up saying, you can add the bridges. The Town Administrator replied we have these two bridges. The next thing you've got to go up to just about Manchester to get across the river. So it just creates a lot of rush hour traffic and the frustration that people feel like we're sitting here in traffic all the time, you know, because not only are we popular, I think the area is popular. So, you know, people are building all around southern New Hampshire, which which, you know is good and bad.

Chairperson Roy said so I think to Brett's point is there's I feel like there's a lack of balance when it comes to development. Right? It kind of swings, you know, and I sort of think that goes to things like zoning ordinances and those kinds of things that that we probably need to clean up If we if we wanna give the town a direction to go in as far as things like development.

Selectman McGrath then said it's not just zoning. You need to have the support from the state to allow us to make changes. This town tried to enact a number of years ago, to stop development. To stop development. And we weren't allowed to do that because the state didn't allow that. You had to have good reason and you'd have to, you know, and I forget now it's so many years ago. But, you know, like everybody is always saying, oh, well, let's, you know, we'll just put a stop to development. Well, that's not so easy because the state doesn't allow it. Our legislators don't allow it. And not only

that, but the the landowners don't want to allow it. They want to be able to. You know, if I wanted to sell my house so I could put it on the market. Right? That was a decision that I wanted to make for myself. All of a sudden, and it didn't apply to me in this case, but I'll use an example. The golf course in Hudson they've wanted to sell for, I don't know how many years. It's owned by three sons. The original owner passed away, left it to his sons and they can't get along and they want to dispose of it. They've been wanting to dispose of it for a long time. They finally found someone that wanted to buy it. And the the neighborhoods surrounding it are having a fit over it. Understandably so. However, they can't...the Friel family wants to sell. Are they expected to hold on to that property for all of eternity because the neighborhood doesn't want them to sell? If those people decided that they wanted to sell. I'm just, I'm devil's advocate here because I have my own thoughts about it that I'm not willing to share. Because if I have to vote on something pertaining to that property, I don't want to prejudge it and I don't want to be held to a standard that I can't vote on it. But I'm trying to play devil's advocate here. So either they're going to be forced to hold on to that property for all of eternity to satisfy a number of people that may end up deciding that they don't like Hudson any longer. And they want to move and they want to sell their house. And all of a sudden it's like, okay, so the Friel's could say, we don't want you to sell and you shouldn't be able to sell, so therefore you can't sell. I mean, it's it's kind of like it's a double edged sword.

And as I've said, not to you, but others have heard it. I've lived here my entire life. I have pictures of when I was a baby in the same neighborhood that I live in now, in the same house that I live in now. So I've been here forever. It seems like forever. And a lot has changed. When I grew up, it was all farmland where Sam's Club is. That was Kerrigan's farm. Across the street was another farm. That's Wal-Mart today. It's just it's, its times change and things change and people change. It's just...it's disturbing. And it's disconcerting. But this this latest development with the Green Meadow has done a lot of damage to this town. To the people that live in this town. And they think that you can stop development when there's a whole lot of other things that are in the way that prevent you from stopping.

Chairperson Roy then said, sidewalks. We need more sidewalks. Selectman McGrath replied, that's Nashua, right? Chairperson Roy asked, what? To which Selectman McGrath replied, isn't that Nashua? I mean are we being annexed as Nashua? I mean, that's at one time.... Chairperson Roy said I don't understand. Selectman McGrath replied, at one time, no one wanted sidewalks. Chairperson Roy replied oh. Selectman McGrath went on to say, no one wanted sidewalks. They wanted country living. Now that's all you're hearing about is sidewalks. So it's, you know, it changes.

Selectman Gagnon said and actually, that's a great point. I'm taking a bunch of notes here that don't make a lot of sense, but I think we're doing better at this, but we can still do better is getting a sense of what the community wants. You know, society changes. And it's very interesting that maybe we didn't want sidewalks in the past. I can understand that. And now we do. And so I think we are certainly taking steps to reach out to the community with cable television and local digital publications. But I think we need to really embrace that much, much more because we're elected officials where we represent the people, we shouldn't get elected and just kind of do what we think is best. But, you know, you'll see what the people want. Society is going to change. You know, generations change and wants and need change. So we can't think that what we needed five years ago is what we need now or even ten or 20 years ago, that we need to keep a constant idea of what the people want. And we need to be aware that their wants are going to change based on how society grows and so forth. So that's one.

Selectman Gagnon went on to say, pivoting off of that. One of my notes here, which we've touched upon a little bit, is I think zoning is is key. We have some very odd zoning. It's there's zoning patches and they don't seem to be, they don't flow very well. So they cause some issues between two zones when they when they touch. That also stems into, you know, where do we develop, where do we save and where do we build. So if we have weird zoning, zoning maps, it makes it tougher to make an overall plan. You know, if you have a G1 all over the place, well, do you want to develop it or do you want to turn it to conservation? Like, that's really not helpful. And I think the crux of why we're having a difficulty fixing our zoning or getting zoning that seems to be more beneficial to our future is because, as we said, we have very vocal residents. We have young residents with young ideas and passions. We have older residents with with great ideas and history that they know of. And it becomes tough for us. I think every selectman gets it tough, but we have so many people coming from two different extremes that is elected leaders we're like, well, what do we do? Let's do nothing because we don't want to piss anybody off. I think that in itself can be very detrimental.

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Mr. Alpers then asked, where else might need attention? Chairperson Roy replied, I think some of and I know we talked about it in a positive light, but some of our I think we've outgrown some of our infrastructure, for instance, this building or the Community Center and those kinds of things that are really kind of capital improvement stuff. But at some point we we need to grow with the community, right? We need, we need to have the the facilities to support the community.

Selectman Guessferd replied, and to that point and maybe it's a, it's a corollary point, you know, we've said on the plus side that we, people get a great bang for their buck. And and we're we're operating right now to our second default budget in a row. The people of this town have have said, we don't want to spend a lot of money, you know, even though we feel I feel the same way as Mr. Malizia is that the people do get it is a relatively low tax base. When you take a look at us versus communities like us, our taxes are not quite as high as some of the other places around. I think I want to say towns like Merrimack. Londonderry. So we we struggle with and we just recently had a had a a survey done or a town hall survey done about a lot of things that could change, things that could be better. But they all involve spending money. And in the environment that we're in right now, it's people don't want to spend money. So how do we then grow? How do we put these things in place that will help us in the future manage and lead better without having that money to be able to do those things, to implement those things and the communication with, you know, a lot of the citizens, you know, there's there's not an and I'm not saying that anybody has a good or bad or there's right or wrong here. It's just the question is how do we then balance those things with having the taxes, the funds to do it at the same time continuing to have. A more efficient lower tax base. And that's that's and so I think that tax situation is a two edged sword.

Selectman Gagnon then replied and if I can, I think we have an example that encompasses that theoretical problem, in a very simple example. We don't really have a code enforcement officer. He we have a gentleman who does supposedly code enforcement and other things too. Chairperson Roy added, he's the Zoning Administrator. Selectman Gagnon went on to say, yeah and I'm not blaming him. I'm just. Chairperson Roy replied, no. I know. I know. There's no there's a zoning administrator but there's no corollary code enforcement officer. It's just one guy. Selectman Gagnon went on to say that's an example of we want to keep taxes low and we don't want to pay for it on the salary. But if you don't pay for code enforcement officer, then you're going to have a lot of people breaking the code or doing things improperly, making the town look ugly, doing things that hurt the environment, and then those cause complaints. So again, we don't want to spend money on a salary for an enforcement, but then the residents and even myself, we get upset when things happen in town that are against the rules or hurt the environment. You can't have it both ways you know. So I think that's a perfect example of what I always say you know, you step over dollars to pick up pennies where and that's our fault. I think leadership, elected leaders need to explain that to to voters that, look, we're not trying to, you know, go out and have a cruise on resident's dime. We're not trying to have a blast. But there are some things that we need to spend the money for because they will affect the town, the town's beauty, the town's character and everything they love about this town. And so I think we need do a better, a better job informing the public, educating the public. And that's that's a pain. People are hard to talk to people. It's tough to educate, but we need to do that tough job if we want to pass a budget, if we want to tell people we need to spend this money because it is going to be beneficial for the town and its future.

Selectman Guessferd then said, well and if you don't and there's the opposite side of that and a couple of us have talked about this in a couple of our meetings, what don't you then get? Our people in town have the benefit of a lot of great services for relatively little money? So if you don't spend the money, if you continue to operate under a default budget and you don't have the bandwidth to be able to do some of those things like a zoning, a code enforcement, then then what happens and what don't the citizens get that they might have gotten before, because let's face it, costs go up. And if you're constantly operating on the same amount of money and costs are going up, something's going to have to give. And nobody wants that to happen, but it's the result. So then how do you then educate so that people understand that they're going to have to spend a little bit if they want to continue to maintain the same level of services? You know, it's a, it's a tough problem.

Chairperson Roy replied, I think that, I think that goes to sort of I would put under the umbrella of community outreach. And we became very reliant, I think, on on a newspaper which which in this day and age sounds a little...Selectman Guessferd said archaic. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. But without that we, we have yet to kind of bridge the gap to a number of people because that went to every house in the community. And then how do we reach those people? You know? Mr. Alpers replied you lost that medium. Chairperson Roy replied yeah, ya know? Town Administrator said we

tried to do a newsletter, we try HCTV but you know free comes into your mailbox and you know, hey, look at the thumbs up column. Oh, what's going on? You know? People just looked at it, you know, whether they read it. But that's where they got a lot of information. Chairperson Roy replied, cuz it was very local information, right? So I don't think that we've sort of, again, bridged that gap. Selectman Guessferd replied there's still, there's still a hole there. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. But not for lack of trying, I guess.

Selectman Gagnon then said I guess I'll add this as we talked about this briefly, but I have an inner need to explain a little bit more. But conservation, I think in the last couple of years we've done great. We've saved some properties. A lot of residents have been happy about that. But I know for myself and I believe for residents, they want to see more of that because let's be honest, when you have more protected land in the area, the value of homes go up, the value of town goes up. You know, people want to live here even more because they're they're nestled in nature. I think a lot of people, young and old, like this town because they feel like it's a country town, country roads, you know, you get beautiful scenery. You can have a nice nestled house in the countryside and it's quiet and pristine. And if we don't actually work at keeping it that way and we just say, you know, we stick to the rule of, well, it's their land that can do what they want with absolute fact. But there's some limits to that. If we want to keep this town as attractive as it is, I think we need to not only purchase more conservation land, but but have a a plan, a professional plan. You know, let's pick a piece there or let's pick a piece here or whatever comes up. You know, I think we need a plan of attack, something on a higher professional level than maybe we currently have. I think it's good for the environment, it's good for our town, and I believe it's actually good for our taxes. Thank you.

Mr. Alpers asked, anything else? Chairperson Roy replied we can do better with voter turnout. The Town Administrator replied we have good voter turnout for primaries and presidential elections. We always poll very high for them, but you get to town meeting, i.e., where you have the most impact, direct impact, and you get 3 to 4000 people. You get a presidential election, you get 12,000, 14,000. They all get to go home, watch, watch the cable news. Who's winning? You know, they love that sort of stuff. But this is the stuff that affects them the most. I mean, you can directly affect yourself. They don't vote. Then they complain. Oh, did you vote? Sorry. Mr. Alpers replied, my town never gets past the 180 number. The Town Administrator replied so we're the split. We have the deliberative session, which I think what do we get in? 60 people tops? Of which 30 work here. And then we get then we get to the voting where 3,000 maybe plus or minus show up must show how they got the information that they're basing their decisions on. I mean, we have umpteen budget meetings. We have umpteen hearings. I'm assuming they're watching and paying attention and they're informed. But I don't know that, you know, it's almost like we've gotten too big for the for what we're doing. You know, we're the ninth largest, by population, community in the state. We're bigger than Portsmouth, We're bigger than Keene. People don't realize that. We have more population than those cities do. And people just look at me like what? I'm like, Yeah, and we're still running it sort of the old fashioned way. Chairperson Roy agreed saying like a small town, yeah.

The Town Administrator then said and you know, it's not the farming community anymore. As much as we lament that there's still space, there's still vestiges, maybe we have the Alvirne barn with the cows, but it's not like even I remember some of the corn fields and some of the strawberry patches that's not there anymore. It's really morphed. But, you know, we've become, like I say, closer to a city size. Selectman McGrath replied, because those people have sold their property. The Town Administrator replied, they moved north. Selectman McGrath continued saying, to the dismay of people such as myself that grew up seeing that and, you know, and enjoying that. And all of a sudden you've got a Wal-Mart and you've got a Sam's Club directly across the street from each other. That, that is more disturbing to me than.

The Town Administrator went on to say people are willing to commute further too. Back in the day commuting from here to Boston, what are you, crazy? Nowadays it's a routine commute for people, you know, but the bands keep expanding. It went to 128, went to 495. Now it's southern New Hampshire, that's really where it's at. Mr. Alpers replied especially with hybrid. The Town Administrator especially with hybrid. Selectman Guessferd then said for sure. You're not going in every day, right. Mr. Alpers replied New Hampshire is seeing growth across the state that way for folks who have moved here from away because they wanted that. Selectman Guessferd added, now they can work from home. Mr. Alpers agreed saying they can work from home. The work life balance is a little bit better.

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Chairperson Roy then said which presents another challenge cuz, cuz now, you know, you're home and you at lunchtime, I'm going to go I want to go over to Benson's and walk or I want to go out to a conservation, you know? So it prevents presents more usage and therefore a little bit more of a challenge for for...Mr. Alpers said maintenance and all that stuff. Chairperson Roy agreed saying yeah, you know. Selectman Guessferd then said if we're going to prevent things like the Wal-Mart and the Sam's Club and things like that, then we've got to this is part of the whole future thing, right? How do we then and zoning is a big piece of it, you know, those, those parcels were zoned that allowed that to happen. So again, like you were mentioning as well, Brett, I mean, we've got to have some sort of plan for how do we want this town to look, you know, and the zoning is at the very center of that. You know, do we want everything? G1 and you know, and G or not everything? I mean, obviously there's but it's a big portion. Do we want to now take a look at all that and decide we don't want this particular type of a property or of a business here, you know, so then we then have to make those changes to the zoning laws based on what our vision is, what the master plan gives us?

Selectman McGrath replied, but you're missing a piece of that. We don't make that decision. Selectman Guessferd replied, we don't. Selectman McGrath replied, we can suggest it. We can put it on the ballot for the voters to vote on it. Selectman Guessferd said absolutely. Selectman McGrath went on to say but it's the voters that make the decision. Selectman Guessferd replied, absolutely. That is that is exactly right. I mean, it's the voter's right. Chairperson Roy added, right, but I think we, we have an obligation to to make sure that we're looking at things like the master plan and those surveys that we do and put forward the right questions on the ballot. So that, Selectman McGrath replied and I agree. But I didn't go because again, I'm stuck in this thing. But there was a visioning session just this past weekend, right? Selectman Guessferd replied yes. Selectman McGrath went on to say they had visioning sessions a couple of years ago. This last, I heard from someone that attended, there were about 21 people that showed up. Selectman Guessferd replied exactly. Chairperson Roy said yeah, that's... Selectman McGrath continued saying no, but we had there were a group of people that showed up at the Board of Selectmen meeting at the last Board meeting, and they were all worked up. They wanted to go to the visioning sessions that were going to try and get everybody to go, and only 21 people showed up. And so it shows a lack of interest. Selectman Guessferd added the online one wasn't any better. Chairperson Roy replied, no it was about 20 people. Selectman Guessferd replied, yeah, exactly.

Selectman McGrath replied so that's like how much interest is there really? Chairperson Roy then said but on the other side of that were something there was over 700 responses to the online survey. Selectman McGrath replied but you don't I mean, that's kind of that's a. That's a different venue. So it's a whole lot it's a whole lot easier to sit at your computer and write out an answer or you don't even know if it's the person that you think that it is. Right? It's all of these people that are ... you don't know if it's one person that's filling out a dozen surveys under a dozen different names. You just don't, you don't know that. And the and the visioning sessions, both sets of them. The first one in particular, there were four of them, and they were set up for Wednesday, two Wednesday evenings and two Saturday mornings so that people would be able to attend if they were working all day and they wanted to just go on a Saturday morning. They could do that, They wanted to go after work at night. they could do that. And I don't think that the attendance at those were was any better than this past one that was was just held. Chairperson Roy replied I think they were. I think they were much better. Selectman Guessferd replied I was one of the Wednesday night sessions back then. I mean, we had like 50, 60, 70. Chairperson Roy added I want to say there was 40 in one of the Saturday sessions. Selectman McGrath went on to say, but, you know, and so again, I go back to Green Meadow and and the the neighborhood being the neighborhoods, I should say. It's not just one, it's it's several neighborhoods that are all worked up over that. And here they have an opportunity to really get their message out and get, you know, get other people to buy into it, because those zoning changes, if there are going to be any, it's going to have to be a majority vote. And if they don't show up. Then nothing is going to happen, right?

Selectman Guessferd replied, because of people I know myself from experience, when I first moved into town, I didn't know a lot about, but I went, I'm going to vote, right? So I go to vote. And at the time it seemed like every time I came up in March to vote, there was 20, 25 zoning, you know, zoning. And I had no idea at the time, you know, about what all these things were. So what did I do? I just said, okay, recommended, recommended. I mean, that's all I had to go by. And that's what people unfortunately tend to do, because a lot of these people, 3000, 4000 people, you know, they're not showing up at these sessions. So what are they doing? They're just saying, well, okay, fine. If they think it's good enough, it's good enough for me. And it's and some things have passed, right? Some

zoning ordinances have passed that probably shouldn't have because of that, because people just went, okay, you know, just check it off.

Selectman Gagnon replied the underlying issue here is figuring out a communication style. You know, the in person styles don't seem to work. The Chairperson said it kind of becomes a community outreach. Selectman Guessferd added, so I don't I don't disagree with you at all. I mean. Chairperson Roy interjected saying cuz it's the same with the budget, right? Like, umm...Selectman Gagnon interjected saying we need to figure out what people want. We have a new society, you know, they they don't want to show up at the meeting, so be it. You know, maybe they have reason, they have families and so forth. They seem to respond to online surveys. That's a good, good avenue. But I think that that's the crux of a lot of what we just talked about for the last half hour is how do you reach voters, how do you get their input and not just from one one group, but from a collective all over town? What is every age bracket want? What does every area of town want so that we can get a good review? Because sometimes we'll have a development that comes up and of course the people in the development get up in arms and then they'll talk and they make great points. But with all due respect, that is only one area of town. What about other areas of town? I mean, I may not agree with the whole town if I want to hear everyone's point of view so I can collectively see what the organization is. So I think the number one issue is communication, is how do you get two-way communication so that government can run properly?

Mr. Alpers replied, engagement. Selectman Guessferd then said the public input we've been getting over the last year since I've been on the Board has been from a particular group of people and they show up a lot. Does that mean that there's other people in town that don't feel differently? They're just not showing up. But I mean, and so how do we then gauge that and say, you know, do we just simply say, okay, well, 20 people showed up and they all liked this. So that's what the town wants. That's a little myopic, right? I mean, so how do you find out what the other people want? And and quite frankly, you know, I get it. If they don't show up, well, guess what? They don't get a say. But unfortunately, that's you know, there are people out there that that we need to try to continue to reach. And I think that's exactly right. How do we reach them so that we get a balanced view of what the town really wants to be?

At this point Mr. Alpers said, okay, let's do this. So we've gone a little granular. And so what I want to do is sort of pull back a little bit, if that's okay, in the sense that I think, look, it's not often that Boards get to talk like this as well. And so, you know, I'm always more willing to let the conversations go because I think at times it's not a structured meeting. You don't have this, you know, 12 item agenda where you got to make decisions one after another. And so it's good conversation. I did that, too, just to get the juices rolling. And I think I already I see some things, you know my brains move in a million miles an hour right now on sort of recommendations for you and that it's a good thing. And I think that coming here tonight, I was like, they just want a vision session. And I'm like, well, what about goals? And I think you're ready for goals. I think I'm going to have to come back at a later date and we can talk goals if you if you want to. Not and not a strategic plan. I don't do those, but I do goal settings and goal reports and I can show you examples of things I've done if you'd like, because I think what you're talking about here tonight is goals in a sense. You're talking about how do we how do we improve communication and engagement with our citizens? How do we find out more from them and what they actually want us to do? Not necessarily from a couple of voices from here and there. That's a goal.

Mr. Alpers continued saying, oftentimes in a community, when I go in and work with boards like yourselves, communication is an overarching goal and then, you know, six bullets and how are we going to achieve improving communication in each one? And so I think my recommendation after we've had is that we convene again and talk some of these, you know, some of these goals. Another one is like zoning. You know, I can't tell you how many boards I've worked at where they're like, Look, we can have a conversation with the Planning Board. We're going to have a, you know, a combined meeting with them and talk about growth and what can be done. What do they think? What could be going up on the ballot in March that could stabilize zoning in this area and improve it over here? And so there are some options out there goal wise that maybe you've already done it. I don't know. I'm just spit balling, but I'm just listening tonight, you know, on what your struggles are and they're real. And how do I get you to that spot where you can finally, you know, I don't want you to leave here tonight. Like, we didn't get anything done. It takes time. You know, so tonight we're going to pull back a little bit. We're going to go a little bit more. 10,000 feet, 20,000 feet. Talk about vision of the community. My recommendation is to the Town Administrator and yourselves is that I come back

at a future date and talk goals on some of that more granular stuff that we just heard over the last half hour or so, if that makes sense. Is that okay? The Board agreed.

Mr. Alpers went on to say I'm hearing it. I'm seeing it. You're not unlike any other community that I've worked with where there's that struggle over it. And because, you know, Steve said the ninth largest community in the state. That's big. It's 234 towns in the state. You're the ninth. And it is funny to see and I think lots of towns are struggling like Hudson in the sense that you're operating on a form of government that was once for many years ago and you're seeing these towns start talking about, well, I'm not necessarily ready to take the jump to a city form of government, but what's that charter form of government look like? Why is it successful in Newmarket? Why is it successful in other communities? So those again, that can be goal sort of oriented things that we can talk about when I come back down the road, you know?

Selectman Gagnon asked can you give me an example of what a vision would be? Mr. Alpers replied, I was heading right there. So when you think about a mission statement, a mission statement is who you are at your core. I sort of said that in my what I said in my paragraph you last week, the email was, you know what your mission is. Your job is to provide a certain level of services every single day. You know, you have your departments that you have. You know, what the needs out of those departments like you describe as only one zoning administrator that could use other things. So you know what your mission is at your core. What communities... do you kind of stay in your lane. You know, when some residents come to you and they ask you to do something like that's really not what towns do, right? You know, when that happens and you get asked those things probably quite often they always everyone wants to a lot of people throw the spaghetti against the wall, right? If they can, they can get someone to bite they'll get some help. What a vision is. Where do you want to go? What do you want to be? And this might be difficult tonight because I don't think you've fully had the conversation yet of where some of these particular goals, which is we're unsure where we want to go. That's what I'm kind of hearing right now tonight from you all, which is we have this demand for growth and it's not necessarily about banging on doors to get them here. They're knocking on your door. You're the ninth largest community. You have a captured audience. I want to put a Walgreens right there because I can get business. I want to put my such and such right there. The Town Administrator said or my gas station operation. Mr. Alpers said or my Aroma Joe's from the seacoast right in southern Maine. Chairperson Roy said we got one. To which Mr. Alpers replied, you know, so you're seeing that and that's not because you're saying please come. It's just naturally happening. It's organically happen. I really like that word organic, but it's just it's happening. Right. You were a targeted on against.

Mr. Alpers went on to say, but I'm also caring when is enough, enough. How do we how do we retain our rural character of who we are? So that small, big town, without giving it up to anyone just to sort of take over? What is that threshold, that line? Selectman Gagnon added and what's our authority. I think it's a great point. But also what to our authority, we also want to be you know, we'd like to do our job and do it well and to solidify a vision of where they want the town to go. But obviously, you want to be delicate about government overreach. That certainly can push a lot of the wrong buttons in town. So, you know, I want to know even for a lot of stuff, what is my authority? How far can I go respectfully to get the job done without going too far? The Town Administrator replied well anything has to be a great decision. To which Selectman Gagnon replied of course. The Town Administrator went on to say there is no individual authority, so it is a Board of Selectmen, truly. So it's certainly that's key. Selectman Gagnon replied yeah but as a board, you know, how what can we change, you know, to to push the town in the right direction or do we just let it happen organically? The Town Administrator replied, well that's the questions. What's the right direction? Everybody has a different view of what the right direction might be. Chairperson Roy added, right. Right. Because I think that it goes to first figuring out the right direction. and then we as as the real, really the leadership body of how do we sort of make that happen is is it always sending suggestions to the Planning Board? Is it community outreach? Is it you know, it's it's kind of all of those things.

Selectman Gagnon asked but can we do that? You know, the Planning Board runs on their own. Can we actually give them direction and tell them what to do? Chairperson Roy replied it's not giving them directions, but I don't think.... Selectman Guessferd said suggesting. Chairperson Roy replied, right. Like like, you know, we as a body decide, hey, you know, we've heard from a number of citizens that we think this portion of town should be zoned whatever, you know? Is that something that you guys would consider putting on the ballot in March? I don't think I don't think there's anything that prohibits us from doing that. We're not saying you need to put this on the ballot. We're just saying, hey, you know, from our point of view, as an elected body, this is what we're hearing. Mr. Alpers added and

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that Select Board rep can also share at their meetings, is the thought. So, yeah, there's no overreach there, I don't think. Chairperson Roy added yeah cuz it's not like we're directing them to to do anything. I don't know that we have the authority to direct an independent board to.

Selectman Gagnon then said so let me maybe make an example now that the juices are flowing and stuff, you know, having our boards work together, I guess, towards a vision, you know, having the Planning Board allow certain things and having the Conservation Commission purchase some land. but not having them step on each other's toes, which has happened one or two times, you know, Oh, we want to develop that property. We want to save that property. What the heck, Aren't we on the same team? So I think that's, hopefully where you come in. Mr. Alpers added that's a little bit of those are some goals as well as we get those teams, those those departments, for lack of a better term, rowing in the right direction together. That's what you're hoping for. Selectman Guessferd replied, again, it's collective. It's collective here because some of us, as you know, whether it's the elephant in the room right now or not, we have people on this, on this board that have different views of things. And so we have and that's the hard part, is getting us all kind of moving in the same overall direction, this vision. And then and we can't overly influence these boards at the same time because we don't want to be coming across like, you know, the 500-pound gorilla. At the same time, you know, we say we say this is what we've developed as our vision, as our collective vision, and we think these things might support that. Something to that effect, you know what I mean? And whether it's going to the Conservation Commission or the Planning Board or the Zoning Board, that's that's kind of what I see. Kind of where where we end up is is going there and saying this is what we've collectively looked at. Now we think maybe this, maybe we have a joint meeting with them or something at some other point.

Chairperson Roy then said I have a vision that sometime hopefully I'll be able to execute that we do have like a meeting with with all of our boards, just we're all in the same room and we talk about these kinds of things. You know?

Mr. Alpers asked the Town Administrator his view and he replied, I'm just I'm just listening because obviously they're the elected. But, you know, the vision, something like, you know, provide first class service by having a highly trained police department, a highly trained fire and EMS department, and, you know, a well-equipped DPW department that can provide that level of service that makes the residents life fulfilling, easy or better, whatever word you want in there.

Mr. Alpers then said and you have phones and it's okay to use them. And I don't say I'll take anything, but you can. Absolutely. That's sort of a vision. It is. It's what you want to strive for. It's what what level of service do you want to have be delivered on a daily basis? So what I want to do next is I want you to give me. Words. Just words. Don't worry about a sentence. Don't get paralyzed. Don't get sort of defeated by how am I going to thread this sentence or two? Right. Let's talk about words. Let's talk about words might you want in your vision statement that talk positively? Sorry, the microphone. Talk positively about the Town of Hudson. Right? That's really what we're doing here. You have some concerns. Let's take those concerns away for a second and look from that 10,000 to 20,000-foot view in a positive tone about where do you want this community to go?

Mr. Alpers went on to ask what words do you want in that vision statement that best describe who Hudson is and where you want to go? Again, a mission statement is who you are at your core. A vision statement is where you want to go. What are some words? I just want words. Chairperson Roy said balance, to which Selectman Guessferd agreed. Selectman Gagnon said charm. Chairperson Roy replied I think there's enough charm in this room. The Town Administrator said desirable. I mean, folks that have a desire to live and perhaps work here. Chairperson Roy said sustainable. To which Selectman Gagnon replied, mmm, thank you. Selectman Gagnon said balance. Do we have it? We already have it. Sorry. Chairperson Roy added, continued professionalism cuz I would like to accentuate the positive that we already have, right? The Town Administrator added you know, we're trying to do things in an efficient, economical, you know, well balanced, we already said balance. That one keeps coming up. Chairperson Roy replied, maybe there's a reason for that. Selectman Gagnon asked, is innovative too much of a stretch for local government? Chairperson Roy replied, I don't believe it is.

Mr. Alpers then said look, Steve can tell you more than anyone. Local government has changed more in the last ten years than it has the previous 50 years before that. Good, right, wrong or indifferent, good, bad or ugly. It has changed. And so you're starting to see a whole lot of innovation come out of local government. Chairperson Roy added, and I think if you look around that there's

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many communities here in Hudson that have done some very innovative things. I think that that we that we as a board and this probably isn't part of the vision, but really have to be cognizant at the at what pace the community wants to change at. Right? Like we can't we can't be running a four-minute mile if they're all running a ten-minute mile. You know? So but I do believe there is there is room there for innovation.

Mr. Alpers said I'm going to put the word paced down for now, and I'll find another word later. What else? Other words that positively that you want to see? Selectman Gagnon replied, collaboration. Leadership collaboration. Mr. Alpers asked, what else? Chairperson Roy replied, controlled growth. Selectman Gagnon added outreach. Mr. Alpers then said, okay, I'll give you some 2022 words. Does diversity and inclusion matter to you? Chairperson Roy replied, yes. Selectman Gagnon said DEI. Mr. Alpers said they are the words of today. And we can put them on there and we can always find other ones, you know. Selectman Gagnon then said before you put them on there. Just just soak in that. How do we apply that to Hudson? I mean, I hear it at work all the time and I know what it is, but how do we apply that to Hudson? Chairperson Roy replied, well, I think it goes to who who we try to attract as employees, particularly outward facing employees. Selectman Gagnon replied employees, okay you're looking at the employee side. Chairperson Roy replied well but also, how do we get a more diverse community? Selectman Gagnon asked, does the community want that? Just ask question. Chairperson Roy replied, don't let's. Selectman Guessferd said you can't force it on them. The Town Administrator said well, no economic strata. Are we in that position, too? I mean, I you know, it's not cheap to live here. It's gotten expensive, you know, do you attract the same diversity at those price points? We're not trying to be exclusionary, but we're not a city where maybe you have more of a hodgepodge of housing types different and attracts different levels of community.

Selectman Guessferd said right now it's very difficult for a lot of people to live in this town. Mr. Alpers replied, and southern New Hampshire. The Town Administrator added, younger people in particular. Mr. Alpers added in Rockingham and Strafford County it's wild. The Town Administrator added, it's crazy.

Selectman Gagnon asked, can I put the word inclusion as separate? I think that can that can be interpreted in multiple different ways. The Town Administrator added, welcoming, tolerant. Those are other values or words that maybe, you know, sometimes don't get thought about. Selectman Gagnon said tolerant. Yeah. Yeah, I like that. Mr. Alpers added, it's a nice word. To which the Town Administrator added, we all got to live together. We might as well try to get along out in the big world. Mr. Alpers then said when we deliver harassment training, and I'm not sure we ever done it here for you folks, but I usually say, Look, you don't have to have Thanksgiving dinner with the people you work with, but you have to be tolerant, you have to be respectful and you have to be professional. You're not going to like you're not going to like everyone you work with. The Town Administrator added you don't got to be best friends. You don't have to go hang out after work. I really don't care about them. but you've got to work together. Selectman Guessferd said yeah, put that word down. You just said respectful. That's not there yet.

Selectman Gagnon then said and sorry I interrupted you, sir. You were saying 2022 keywords. Mr. Alpers replied, that was it. like diversity and inclusion, I'm just, you know, I just throw them out there. I'm thinking as well as you're thinking, too. Yeah. At the same time. Any other words? Because this is actually believe it or not, we're going to I'm going to throw out a sentence out of this. So just give it to me like a snow blower. You know, I'm going to I'm going to thread a sentence for you. The hard work belongs to me is to go back and use this and thread a sentence out of this. and send it back to you when we do goals. I promise it won't take me as long as it did this time to get here

Chairperson Roy said attractive. So the community is remains attractive to to people, to citizens, to businesses. The Town Administrator added, well, livable. The Chairperson agreed saying Attractive. Livable. Yeah. Selectman Gagnon then said I think that's good. Those are some strong, good words that mean something in this town. What do you think? The Town Administrator asked Mr. Alpers, can you think of anyone we're missing?

The Town Administrator added, community spirit, saying I mean, obviously, that's certainly something that we talked about steering, you know. Selectman Gagnon added camaraderie. Mr. Alpers said I just botch the spelling, but I got it. You know, it's just. It's. I think keep talking a little bit in the sense that maybe more will come, because I think when I come back, you know, what I want you to be prepared to do is. Think through some of these topics we talked about here tonight. I feel like there's there's not a stalemate, but there's certainly erratic. You had a juncture I wouldn't call it a

crossroads, but you're at a juncture, whereas as a community, we need to figure out where we need to go because we could take many different paths. And maybe we're having different groups of people in the community tell us to take those different paths. But is that really in the best interest of the whole community? What's the population here? The Town Administrator replied, 25,000 plus or minus people? Mr. Alpers replied, yeah, that's a lot of people.

Selectman Gagnon then said that's why we kind of get to a stalemate, as you correctly picked up on tonight. Chairperson Roy said but we should be able to to be able to not only attract but but maintain the whole diversity that we have. And I think with with community, with Hudson, it's it's probably an age thing. You know, we need to have as many services for young families as we do for elderly, you know, and seniors. Right. So how do we how do we get that go back to that word balance? You know, so that we're servicing all of our population. We're not, we're not focusing on one.

Selectman Gagnon then said even to expand on that a little bit. it's kind of easy or it's easier to see who we have and what they need. That's fairly apparent. But to be innovative and future minded to see who do we want to attract to the town and what do the people who don't live here would like to see and balance that? You know, what is the next generation who may not live here in a large population, but, you know, I can see people my age wanting to come to Hudson in the next ten years. There's only a few of me. What would what would younger generation want to see in Hudson so that we can attract those young workforce here and balance the people who do live here and what they need. That's the balance I want to see. Mr. Alpers replied, yeah, I mean, that's what I'm kind of seeing in the vision statement already just standing here, which is how do you achieve that, that that balanced life here in the community from a from a services standpoint, you know, from a growth standpoint. Selectman Guessferd replied and services our entire demographic. I like that word. Forgive me, but I know we've been kind of we focus on town, but our town is more than just town. It's school as well. Yeah, so are we think are we are we focused here just on the things that we can control, essentially? or I mean, because part of the attractiveness of this town to folks, one of the biggest things that people will we can have all these all the wonderful things we have here. But if our but if the school side isn't robust, you're going to lose a lot of those young people that I mean, so all I'm saying is that are we just focus we're kind of focused on the things that that we can kind of.

Chairperson Roy replied, I think that brings up a good point is like how do we tie it in so that we're one community? We're not a school district and in a town we're a community. Selectman Guessferd then said because what if we have one? You do this with us and then you go over to the School Board and you do it with them and their vision is here and our vision is here. That's one of the problems I've had over the years, is is developing a joint vision as well so that everyone is kind of on the same page and we're not fighting against each other.

Mr. Alpers replied, I would say that would be unique across the state if that happened. And I'm not trying to push back, but. Right. Steve, I mean, it's not. I had a board I worked with once and I can't remember who it was. They had plans to take this report and they they went to a school board meeting and shared it with them, you know, to just to have that conversation. Like, look, this is where we're at. We want to show you what we think our vision is. These are some goals we're thinking about working on and and just at least shared it in person, not just, you know, Steve sending over an email with an attachment to the superintendent of the Alvirne School district. It was more a little more personal. It had some meeting and then they had some good back and forth and discussion and I think it sparked interest. So I think Robert, I think that's a goal, you know, you know, like if we come back and overarching goal is communication, then that can certainly be an objective underneath it. You know, and I think that's what when I do come back, when we talk goals, because I think I saw a lot of them here tonight, there's a lot of goals here potentially. I think what I'm going to ask you for is each member of the team here, all six of you, I know we're down one person right now, but all six of you is to supply us with your top four goals that you would like to see the community achieve. What you would like to see the community achieve over the next 12 to 18 months. You know, and I'm talking this is not a strategic plan. Some of the stuff is low hanging fruit. And so you're going to give me the goals. We're going to put them up here. I'm going to find overarching themes like infrastructure and economic development and in communication and whatever it might be. And we're going to take a bunch of those goals and stick them underneath those overarching themes, if that makes sense, with objectives and timelines underneath it. Like, okay, you really want this achieved over the next 12 months? A.) who's going to do it? Steve can't do it, all. He's not a superman. How are we going to get it done? And then what's the timeline on that and how are we going to fund it? So it becomes even more I wouldn't say stressful, but it definitely has drilling down in saying, you know what?

Mr. Alpers went on to say, because the last thing I want to do is leave here and then I just give you this daunting report and it's unachievable and it just collects dust. So let's pick three four goals over all. You'll supply me right here in this room, just like we had tonight with four individual goals. And then what you'll get back is only like a four goal report. Not every goal makes it to the top because...Selectman Guessferd asked, and that's a future thing? Mr. Alpers replied, yeah it's a future thing. I want you to, I'm here. We're talking because what's going to happen is I need to go back. I've listened a lot tonight. I've got to make sense of these words. And I heard you loud and clear about where you're at juncture wise as a community. And then but while I'm working on that, I want you to start thinking about what do you want Hudson to achieve. Get away from the fires. We're going to fill this pothole. This ditch line, this culverts broken. We're not in a CIP mode. We're not in this parking lots messed up. Okay, maybe that's a goal. but think about goals like, let's get back to the communication piece. Let's get back to the zoning piece. I can't tell you how many towns have had a time and time again. They want to meet with the land use boards constantly. Historic district, if you have one, zoning and planning happened. It's a common theme in every town I go in and out of because they some towns want more growth, so they want to spur that conversation and then some towns like ourselves are going, Oh, we just need to find that balance. It's really on fire out there. How do we have a community conversation with the planning board now because March is coming. And you're an SB2 so everything speeds up a little bit. So I want you to just be thinking about what are those goals you want to see the community achieve over the next 12 to 18 months? They have to be can't be this overwhelming. You know, we're going to build a public safety, building that's not a 12 to 18-month goal. It could be policy driven. It could be ordinance driven. Communication driven. We talk a lot tonight about zoning. I'm just trying to think outside the box here from a community standpoint.

Mr. Alpers asked the Board, does that make sense? Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. Mr. Alpers went on to say I just want make sure you felt like that was fruitful. And what we're going to be doing going forward is gonna be fruitful as well. And I sort of invited myself back when I was talking to Steve. Chairperson Roy replied, but I'm okay with that. Selectman Guessferd added, I'm fully in support of that. Chairperson Roy added, yeah cuz I think that what we did here today was for me anyway, really useful. Just kind of hearing what, like you said, we're usually just we have this agenda and we have to do these things and we don't have just open conversation about things.

Selectman Gagnon then said I think this is a baby step, a step in the direction I believe a board of directors should be focusing on. We are not a CEO. We shouldn't be buried in the day to day. Steve does a phenomenal job at that. He needs two of him. But we are a board of directors. We need to be future thinking. To me, that is our only goal. So I think this is a good step.

Chairperson Roy added, and I also think it provides some the indications of where the town wants to go, to other to other boards, to the planning and zoning board to to the Budget Committee, you know, all of those things. You know, they can look at that and say, oh, that's something they came up with it we could support. You know? Mr. Alpers added, there's another goal. Citizen engagement that we want that to be one of your goals. How do you do it? 25,000 people, it's not easy. We're I live in Bristol where we have 3,200 year round residents and say 10,000 in the summer. You know, it's much easier to reach 3,200 people on the on the tax rolls than it is on the voting rolls, essentially, than it is to reach 25,000. It's a lot. So you kind of have to you have to baby step it, but you also need to think big. And what tools are you using now? What other mediums are out there? You know, you have the TV, you've lost your newspaper, you might have newsletters, but what else is out there, even technology wise, to help you improve that, that the town could make investments in that might have you reap the benefit even just 12 to 18 months down the road, that you have just further good engagement there.

Mr. Alpers went on to say, also, if you went out to ICMA Steve knows what ICMA is, but if you go out to a conference like that, all those companies live out there, those vendors, those tech, to help you with that citizen engagement. Maybe that's maybe that's where you're at. I'm not trying to push you there. I'm just trying to start the thinking process since you've never really set goals before as a board. And so this is new in a sense. You might have done it in other nonprofits or other boards, but just really, really thinking about how are we going to do this? Because it's not an easy task for you being the size of the town that you are. Right? Some Board members replied with mmhmm. Mr. Alpers went on to say, okay. So that's the plan. We'll get the juices flowing. Talked about what's going pretty well. We talked about what still needs attention. We got a little granular, but that was okay because you had a good conversation, a robust conversation about what's happening here in the community. We talked about what the vision, Certain words in a vision statement could be for the

Town of Hudson. It's now my responsibility to to thread that sentence for you. And lastly, we've talked about goals, and I've asked you to think about four goals each, when I come back, on what you want to see the town achieve over the next 12 to 18 months and we spitball a ton of ideas about what those goals might be. Everyone happy with that? We'll make sure we're clear, concise. We'll sort of step together on this and I'll get with Steve, if not tomorrow or Friday, to set another date. My apologies for me canceling twice. I got two kids in high school sports and life messy in the fast lane right now sometimes. So I think I told Jill, I said, I'm coming tonight if I have to walk here is what I said. And I said, That's my better half the other night, too. I was in Berlin Monday night and. And she said, You out two nights? I said, I'm out tonight. Said, I'm going, Hudson. I said, I am walking to Hudson if I have to. It was actually yeah, it's a much easier ride home tonight than it is, you know, traversing the notch and down Route 3 through Twin Mountain and all that the other night you know.

So hopefully you find this beneficial and we'll keep doing more. Chairperson Roy replied, I absolutely do. I think it was a great first step. Again, I think we had some conversations that we don't usually have the luxury of having because we're confined to an agenda and a time limit and all those things. So I appreciate you coming. Thank you. Mr. Alpers added, and they're very transparent. You're doing it live on TV. So everything's recorded. The Town Administrator added, we are very transparent community. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. The Town Administrator went on saying seriously. I mean, all the meetings, all the all the material that gets out there. Chairperson Roy added, literally every meeting of every committee and every board is televised. The Town Administrator covered his eyes and said you'd have to be like this to not see what's going on. Mr. Alpers replied, I do about a dozen of these a year, and that's really regular ones that have gone back to community after year after year. This is only the second community where we're live. Kudos to you. That's a good transparency. Any other questions or anything before?

Selectman Gagnon said I guess you've talked about a second meeting. And so this is we've got some basics here, some some meat on the bone. The next meeting we're going to combine our vision with our goals. Mr. Alpers added, you'll have the vision before you set your goals. So at least give you something about, okay, here's the vision. Now, what are some goals I want to see achieved in and around that vision? Selectman Gagnon replied okay and if there were to be a sales pitch for a third meeting, what would that third meeting be? The capstone of that vision, goals and then what?

Mr. Alpers replied, implementation, further implementation. You know, we'll put some if we're struggling to put some time, if we get deep in there and we've been at it a couple of hours and I'm going to say time out because it's tiring, then I might come back for a third meeting and say, all right, when do you want this achieved by who's going to do it? That's when it gets difficult. It's easy to say what you want to do, who's gonna do it? How are you going to do it and who's going to pay for it?

Selectman Gagnon then said and what should we expect from you, sir? A final report on tonight, and then seemingly.... Mr. Alpers replied, you'll have a multilayered report. So I go home, I write it up. I gave it to Vicki, who's the grand wizard at Primex, and she makes it look delightful and attractive and in an actual report. And we just keep adding to that report. So right now, like Somersworth School District I've been doing it for about a year with the administrative team, it's probably no lie about 25 pages long. Selectman Gagnon replied ah that's not bad. Mr. Alpers went on to say, so we just kept adding to it for a year and they have an incredible working document and that's what you're going to get. So when we're done, you know, you have something with you at every Selectmen's meeting that is a livable working document. You have something to show the public, you have something to take to civic groups, you have something to take to the school board if you so choose to do. Selectman Gagnon replied, excellent. Thank you, sir. Thank you for your time.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. by Selectman Guessferd seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 4-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant.

Kara Roy, Chairperson

Bob Guessferd, Vice Chairman

ABSENT David Morin, Selectman

Marilyn McGrath, Selectman

Brett Gagnon, Selectmen

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the October 20, 2022 Budget Review Meeting

- 1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> by Chairman McGrath for the meeting of October 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Police Captain Mike Davis

3. ATTENDANCE:

Board of Selectmen: Marilyn McGrath, Bob Guessferd, David Morin, Kara Roy, Brett Gagnon

<u>Staff/Others:</u> Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Brian Groth, Town Planner; Tad Dionne, Police Chief; Dave Bianchi, Police Captain; Jason Downey, Police MPO; Chrissy Peterson, Recreation Director; Lisa Labrie, Finance Director; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant.

Absent: Jim Michaud, Town Assessor

New Business

A. 2022 Tax Rate

The Town Administrator began by saying The Town Administrator explained, so you should have a memo in front of you, with a couple of pages behind it. Basically, we're looking to solidify, get, get all our numbers in order for DRA to approve a tax rate for the town of Hudson. As you're well aware, we had a very large revival this year. People got notices of their valuation. That basically meant was the property tax rates dropping. So last year the rate was, I believe, \$21.67. That's the total rate broken up between the town, local schools, state, education and county. This year, the rate projects to be \$14.87, with the town piece going from \$6.52 to \$4.70. The second page lists all the components. This assumes that we take \$600,000 of unreserved fund balance against the taxes, which is what we budgeted and typically have been budgeting. The last page of this kind of walks you through some calculations of the surplus of the unassigned fund balance we have, which we calculate it to be about \$8.1 million. So if we take \$600,000, about 7.6 million, which is 8.8% of our total gross appropriations, we like to typically between to be between 5% and 10%.

The Town Administrator went on to say, so that's a very solid number to be at. So it leaves us plenty of cushion it to some negativity, some downtime, some revenues that fall off or if there were to be an emergency. So we're in good shape there. So what we're recommending is using the \$600,000 to support a total tax rate of \$14.87 per \$1,000. Should you vote on that, that's what we'll submit to DRA. They'll go back and forth, look at all the rest of the data. We may or may not get more revenue. Sometimes DRA goes in and adjust things like the rooms and meals tax. So after this first motion we need a consensus. If we were to get some more revenue, do you want to adjust the tax rate or do you want to keep the tax rate the same? When I say adjust the tax rate more likely to go down because more revenue would cause the rate to drop. So we'll take that. Second. The first thing is I'm looking for your approval to use \$600,000 of the town's \$8,195,441 unassigned fund balance to support a tax rate of approximately \$14.87 per thousand.

<u>Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to authorize the use of \$600,000 of the Town's \$8,195,441, Unassigned Fund Balance in support of a tax rate of approximately \$14.87 per thousand, as recommended by the Finance Director. Carried 5-0.</u>

So looking just for a consensus. If we were to get more revenue on the books, my recommendation would be to take it against the tax rate. You've got a pretty healthy surplus. There's no need banking more surplus. I think it would if we were to get more revenue, it would help the voters; it would help the taxpayer. So I would just consensus, if that's the board's wish, if we were to get more revenue, I don't anticipate it getting less. I'm just saying if we got more, we'll take it towards the rate.

Selectman Gagnon then said and can you just give me a little understanding of \$8 million is a huge surplus and using \$600,000 certainly isn't much drop in the bucket for the most part. What else can we use that \$8 million for. The Town Administrator replied, whatever you want to appropriate in the next budget. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. The Town Administrator then explained, so typically, it's good to

have as a cushion for, let's say we budget five and a half million dollars' worth of revenues registrations. If for some reason that drops off next year, you could use some of that surplus to ease that if you were to have a major emergency. And that's difficult to define because we're insured for a lot of things. But if something were to happen, you could petition the court to use some of that money. Don't forget, it also is covering the schools too, or a portion of its covering the school. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay, Good to know. The Town Administrator went on to explain, they've retained some of their own surplus, but we still cover some of that exposure. Selectman Gagnon replied, gotcha. Thank you.

Chairperson Roy asked, so we continue to go to do that as their kind of rainy day fund grows? The Town Administrator replied their rainy day fund has a cap on it, so they go to 2.5%. Selectman Guessferd said, I think they're already there. The Town Administrator added, I think they've already maxed out their cap. Chairperson Roy asked and we don't have a cap. The town doesn't have a cap? The Town Administrator replied, No. But typically, good accounting practice and recommendations are somewhere, I've seen it go as high as 17%, but 8% to 10% is where we are. And I think our policy tries to get us at 8%. So we are well within that parameter. It also helps when you go, we just did a police bond. It helps when you go for the interest rate because you show fiscal stability. So that that definitely helps when you look at your credit worthiness.

Selectman Gagnon asked and we can just dip into that. We have to get either put it on the budget or get voter approval or spend something from that account? The Town Administrator replied, correct. And we've done that in the past. We've used money, I think, towards the Taylor fire station. We've done some other projects where we've asked the voters, can we use some of that unassigned fund balance? It's always an option, but it's not a checkbook you just go write money against. It is the voters' money in the long run.

Selectman McGrath said so this this should help to allay the fears of the residents when we want to do a reassessment of properties because people were freaking out thinking that their tax rate was going to double what it was. And so this should help to right that. Chairperson Roy replied saying right, we can't raise more money than they appropriate, Right. We can't raise it beyond what the voters. Selectman McGrath then said people you know people aren't in the know like we are. I mean, and I'm assuming that most people don't watch this meeting, because I'll tell you, if I weren't on the Board, I wouldn't be watching it. So, you know, a lot of people, when they get that letter in the mail, they're, they're really afraid. I mean, I had a couple, I had a couple of people up the street from me, and they were really afraid. They thought that their taxes were going to be doubling and they, they just didn't know what to do next. They didn't know how to go about it. So, you know, that's why it's I think that this is important, that they'll get something that, you know, it will help the next time there has to be a reevaluation, hopefully.

The Town Administrator said and just in terms of absolute numbers, I believe Jim Mitchell and I, we talked about it. I believe this is the lowest tax rate we've had like in the last 30 years. Just to put it in context, you're still going to get a tax bill. It may still be higher than last year's, but from a rate perspective, it's been one of the lowest rates we've ever seen. And just to put it more perspective, last year, the valuation for the all the property in town was \$3.2 billion. I'm rounding a little bit this year. It's almost \$4.8 billion. So there was quite a bit of growth there, but it dropped the rate, you know, 31%, \$6.80. So your taxes aren't doubling. More likely they're going to go up because people did vote for things. We voted for a police facility. There's a cost to pay for that bond. There's, there's other things that we're paying for. Same on the school side. But your taxes should not double.

Selectman Gagnon said Mr. Malizia, just so I'm clear to the I think you gave a number of the residential or can you, the residential side went up the, the assessments average for the residential side went up significantly but commercial assessments didn't rise as much as residential. Correct? The Town Administrator replied, my understanding from the Assessor that is true. So there's been a slight shift between the ratio of commercial versus residential. They might have gone from 70/30 to maybe 72/28. They still pay their share. But as we're all aware, we've been in a very robust market for housing. We all look around and say, Wow, they got half a million dollars for that, you know, market value or try to get close to market value. So it's an acknowledgement. We are you know; we've had significant valuation increase on the residential side of things.

Selectman Guessferd asked, would it be helpful if we told that story at the deliberative session? Chairperson Roy replied, oh, I think it would. Selectman Guessferd went on to say If we if we presented that. So the people that are there and watching because more people, I think, tend to watch that than watch this. As you're saying, not as many watch here. I think it'd be a really good thing for us to be doing as we introduce the, the budget or whatever. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah, I think that we can probably put some comments together. Selectman Guessferd said yeah, a couple of charts. You know, people can see it and go okay. We truly are. You know, um, our, our taxes are truly a good value, I guess we'll say.

Selectman McGrath then said, so, Steve, can you help us pen something? The Town Administrator replied, oh, of course.

The Town Administrator then said so that's probably a good segue into the Assessing part of the budget. The Chairperson replied, yes, let's talk about Assessing.

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Assessing (5410)

The Town Administrator then explained, so as you know, that was a pretty major effort this year, this past year, and everybody's to be commended for, you know, all the work they did. So the Assessing budget, I believe, as presented. And I'm just going to cheat a little bit here. I believe, for the operating part of the budget. See here really quick, I'm just going to the end here. It's down about 3.7, 8% and the labor portion is down about 1.28%. So overall, the budget is down about 1.93%. Some of that is because we don't have some of the expenses we incurred with the postage and whatnot. Another, I believe some of the laborers, one of the employees changed their benefits is taking a lesser benefit. So overall, that budget has decreased.

Chairperson Roy asked, okay. Does anybody have any questions about the Assessing budget? Is that is that the entire? Because I have a question about the IT. The Town Administrator replied the IT was when Mr. Beike was here the other day. The Chair then replied, and I didn't notice it, but maybe you can answer it because I think I know the answer. I just want to make sure. 269. Went from \$11,350 to 0. Is that because...The Town Administrator replied, we switched software. The new software vendor is giving us the first two years of maintenance gratis. Chairperson Roy replied, that's what I thought.

Selectman Gagnon then said, Mr. Malizia, one question, it's low numbers, but line item 402 on page one. actuals where? \$237.00. \$108.00. But budgeting is \$2,000. The Town Administrator replied, yeah for the for the automobile that they use over there. I think it's getting more mileage older on it so it's probably going to be in need of tires and some probably tune up and some other work. We truly don't know. It's like you or I trying to estimate what we think we need for a year. So but given that it's a recycled police vehicle, they do tend to incur more maintenance.

Planning & Planning Board (5571-5572)

The Town Administrator explained, this would be this would be in the land use tab. It's the first page starts on the first page and the Linnaeus tab. We did the rest of them the other evening. Again, this covers the Planning and then subsequently the Planning Board. So Mr. Groth is here if you have questions.

Chairperson Roy asked does anybody have questions? Selectman Guessferd replied no, actually. The Chair then said I have one question. Can you just tell us what we get for our NRPC membership? And I think that's probably more for the viewing public than it is for sure. Mr. Groth replied, sure there's a number of things that NRPC provides, and it's not just to the Planning Department. as part of our NRPC membership, we're part of an energy aggregation program that I don't know the exact number of how much it saves the town on an annual basis, but I believe it's equal to or greater than the dues that we pay. Other items, for instance, the comprehensive traffic study that is still going. They wrapped up their data collection just as a quick update. They had their transportation planner retire. So that is why that study has taken a little longer. But we should be seeing some of the next few months. anyways. Services like that are part of our dues. We also get representation at their Executive Council and at the Transportation Advisory Committee. So for example, we recently through the, every two years DOT solicits new projects for the ten-year plan. And so, as this board is aware, we submitted three projects and there were 17 total projects submitted in the region for \$40 million worth of projects, and the allocation was only \$7 million. So

we did get one of our projects on there, the sidewalks on 102. We did get the largest piece of the pie for our regional allocation. So I think that was a win for the town. But the story here is it helps to have a seat at the table to make things like that happen. So those are a couple of the benefits. And they also assist with we really have to tap into them. And as their have they as they have capacity, they can help.

The Chair asked, they assisted with the visioning sessions for the master plan, correct? Mr. Groth replied, Yes. And so they do perform services like that. So, for instance, that master plan contract in total over the past few years was \$25,000, whereas a private consultant, that would be over \$100,000. So the town does receive services at a discounted rate than if you were to go out to a private consultant.

Selectman McGrath asked, don't you have an assistant in the office that comes in to help you? Was it once a week or a couple of times a week? Mr. Groth replied, about almost eight hours a week. It's two, two days, well two mornings a week to assist with business that we have going on. And again, that's an example of a service that we receive at a discounted rate that would otherwise cost the town much more.

The Town Administrator added, when we talked about the electricity, too, just to put it in perspective, we're getting our electricity at \$8.4 cents for kilowatt hour. PSNH or Eversource is at \$0.22 NRPC put the aggregation together. We've been participating in it for the last dozen years. And so this was a two-year deal. So it's very beneficial to the town. One other quick thing. When we did the redistricting for the voting districts, they did it. They had all the data. They did it as part of the dues here ago. So it was very, very productive, very efficient for them to do that for us.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said yeah. So actually, on the budget, just two questions here. One, I see line 216 actual \$16.00, \$20.00, but you're budgeting \$1200 for other legal docs. Just curious why that jump. Uh, line 216. Repeat. Mr. Groth replied there's a couple of line items we have that vary year to year. Some of the items we don't need it all and other times, they're very important. So it's an honest place in there. It's the basic formation of this budget is been as long as I'm as I've been aware of. So I don't know why it was so low in some years. Selectman Gagnon asked, what is it for, sir? What is that for? What are legal docs and deeds? Mr. Groth replied for instance, we had to hire the Town Attorney to prepare an easement document that. Might have been negotiated as part of a site plan or subdivision approval or something like that. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. All right. All right.

Selectman Gagnon then asked, and then on the reverse, I see line 252, \$19,000, \$40,000, \$9,000, and then budgeting zero for professional services. Where'd that go? Mr. Groth replied, that was to Selectman McGrath's point the in FF21, this Board, graciously, they allowed to use some of the application fees that came in from the Hillwood Development project to be used towards funding some of the assistant planning help. And so. We have those funds to use in those years. And we've had less since. Selectman Gagnon replied, alright. Thank you very much.

Chairperson Roy asked okay, does anybody have anything else? You have one outside warrant? The Town Administrator replied, yeah, I don't know if you had any questions on the Planning Board itself. The Planning Board just has its own separate cost center. Selectman McGrath interjected saying, can I ask one question before we move on? So you mentioned the visioning session that took place. How many people attended that this past Saturday? I heard that it was a very low number. Were you there? Mr. Groth replied, yeah, it was 25. I'm trying to. Selectman McGrath replied, I heard 21, but. Mr. Groth replied, were 21 people sitting at the tables and so what I was debating was should I count myself and other staff out there? But. There were 21 participants. Selectman McGrath replied, great turnout.

Selectman Guessferd said and some of those were members of boards as well. So in terms of citizens other than those participating in boards, probably, what, 15, 12? Something like that. That's not the fault of the folks putting it together. It just shows.... Selectman McGrath interjected saying, no it's just it's not. It's not, Brian's fault. I'm not I'm not even intimating that. Selectman Guessferd replied, I know that. It goes to the point you made the other night. Selectman McGrath replied, you can't, you can't convince people for whatever reason, they just don't want to participate. So. Sad but true.

Mr. Groth then said, and I'm just off topic. I am curious why this time around it was lower turnout because the first series we did, we had six sessions. The turnout was pretty good. I mean, in terms of if you want to compare to the population of the town, no, you can't really compare it that way. But we were getting 30 to 40 people a session. And so, yeah, I wish more had come out this time. Selectman Gagnon replied, I think some of that had to do with I think there was back then some residential groups different than today's

residential groups that help market that sort of a nod to them for helping get people engaged. Maybe, maybe as leaders we need to pick that up and do a better job with that. But.

Chairperson Roy asked, so does anybody have any questions about the Planning Board?

Seeing none, the Town Administrator said so there was the one out of the budget request. If you wanted to just touch base on that. I think it's between the Planning Board and the Planner. Mr. Groth, we've provided a cost. If you were to bring back an associate planner and associate planner. So perhaps could do more than one function. I don't know. Chairperson Roy asked, is that a position that exists that just hasn't been funded or is it one that would have to be created? The Town Administrator replied, the short answer is yes. We had an associate planner, you remember Cynthia May you remember, there were some other? Selectman McGrath said, that was a century ago. The Town Administrator replied, yeah, we had them into the mid 00's. So when things got reorganized and reshuffled, that position fell by the wayside. It hasn't been populated, but it's in the it's on the roster. Chairperson Roy replied, kay. All right. I guess that's my question. The Town Administrator added, I believe it's still been in the contract. For the supervisors group. I think it's in that in that contract. But again, it hasn't been populated for at least a dozen years. Selectman McGrath said Cynthia May was a great asset to have. The Town Administrator replied, she was here when I got here. To which Selectman McGrath replied, Yeah. But that was a long time ago when John Cashel was here. He didn't have the need...The Town Administrator replied, no, I don't believe he did. Selectman McGrath went on to say and John worked extraordinary hours and I don't remember him having. The Town Administrator said I know at least a dozen years ago, it all blends together.

Selectman Gagnon said, Brian, can you speak to the need for this, please? Mr. Groth replied, sure. It's an issue of capacity. Obviously, the more capacity the department has, the more they're able to accomplish. This position, in particular, having listened to some of the feedback in the last budget cycle and not necessarily from this Board, but where the Planning Department was seeking part time help and so is the Zoning Department through NRPC. And some thought maybe it would be better to have a position inhouse. And so the thinking here was, a person in this position would be able to assist both departments because planning and zoning are inextricably linked. You know, that's. There's a lot of work that can be done in terms of our land use policies. And just given the, the caseload, if you want to call it that. It's it' that kind of capacity that we could use to address some of those things. So I understand the current budget situation we're in, but, again just respond to what I thought I was hearing.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and asked so is that in addition to the assistant you have from NRPC? Mr. Groth replied, no, this would be in place of that in place. Selectman McGrath replied, in place of. So we're getting someone from NRPC that's at a reduced rate and then looking to have someone on staff? Mr. Groth replied, no, it would be if this position were to be successful, we wouldn't have the need for the part time assistance from NRPC. Selectman McGrath replied, I'll see about that.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said he just answered my question. I'm all set, thank you.

Selectman Gagnon asked, and can you remind you of the cost? I think it was \$30,000. What was the cost for that part time assistant from NRPC? Because if we lose that, we'd be saving that money, right? Mr. Groth replied, yeah. I mean, it depends on the year. At its highest year was \$40,000. But it seems that it hasn't been that high since then. But between \$20,000 and \$30,000 I'd say. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay so if we save \$20- 30,000 then a full time planner under our under our roof is \$113,000. That's not too, too bad. And you were saying, did I hear you correctly, that they would maybe help zoning and end you? Is that correct? Mr. Groth replied, yeah, I think that would be appropriate.

Selectman McGrath then said, that's if you share. Right. You'd have to have to agree ahead of time what the hours were going to be, who was going to get the person...The Chairperson said of course. Selectman McGrath continued saying half of the time, I mean, that would have to be...The Chairperson again said, of course. Selectman McGrath then said I'm saying it out loud because I want to make sure that it's understood.

Selectman Gagnon then asked Mr. Groth do you think you can find someone that has both those qualities? I know zoning and planning are similar. But the Zoning Administrator, he kind of, if understood correctly wanted more of a code enforcement officer. I think maybe that was the \$30,000 figure I'm thinking of. Do you think an individual can come in and be a zoning enforcement officer, part time and a

planning officer, part time? And what I'm getting at is, if you can the zoning officer, I think, was \$30,000. If we got rid of that out of budget expense and we got rid of NRPC's expense and we just went with this \$113,000 expense, it becomes a pretty value add there. Mr. Groth replied, yeah, I do. I mean, I think a lot of zoning administrators and a lot of zoning work is done by planners. So I think it was a professional planner they would absolutely be able to help out with both departments. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay, I'd be in support of this. Thank you.

The Town Administrator then said remember, the \$30,000 is not in the budget. Selectman Gagnon replied, that was another out of budget. True. The Town Administrator reiterated, just to be clear, it's not in the budget right now.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said so what happens when or if, development stops or calms down. that we're not facing another Hillwood situation or I mean, is it going to be. Is it going to be as busy as it is now? What are we going to do with the extra person? Are we going to? Chairperson Roy replied, so I would think based on what I know from Mr. Groth here, that at least for a time, there would still be plenty for them to do. I mean, it's not just the development part of it. It's zoning ordinances. It's it's updating all those policies and bylaws and doing all those kinds of things that he's been doing on his own, plus the development stuff. So I think that that at least for a time, I don't know if it would last forever then that that they could be gainfully employed, particularly if they're sharing them with the Zoning administrator. Selectman McGrath then asked so how many zoning changes have you prepared over the last two or three years? Mr. Groth replied, gosh, I think we had five last year. It's an average of 4 to 5 a year. Selectman McGrath asked, and that's done at the end of the year, correct? Mr. Groth replied, that's typically when the public hearings are held. Yeah. Selectman McGrath replied, so.

Chairperson Roy then said but I mean it just doesn't happen at the end of the year. It works up to that. That being said, I know you and I had a conversation and it holds true now that I struggle to support a lot of these a lot of the additions to personnel. I think there's a lot of competing priorities that we have this year as a Board. We have the manpower study that we had that pointed out some maybe some gaps in the town hall staff that we might, we should probably address. So, you know, that's where I am with it. Obviously, it's a Board decision, but that's where I am with it. Mr. Groth then said it's not just Planning Board business. It's not just applications and master plans and things like that. There's the day to day, there's the phones, there's the permits, there's a lot of work to be done on that. Chairperson Roy replied, and don't get me wrong, I'm not saying it's not important or not even not needed. It absolutely is, is just that there's lots of competing things going on this year. So that's where I am.

Selectman McGrath said I'm not convinced that it's needed.

Chairperson Roy asked, does anybody else have anything for Mr. Groth? Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said Brian, I know there's a lot going on with with what you're doing. And I know part of your charter is, is to is to work/update the master. There's a lot of master planning aspects of your job, as well as the day to day. I'm sensing that there's probably things that you could do. You could focus more on because you're trying to do everything right now. What are the things that that would now be if we if we did this, what would those things be that you could get? You could do? What what would be the benefits for you? And just in terms of the breadth of your job and being able to do more. I mean, there's some specifics that we can you can talk to us about.

Mr. Groth replied, a lot of things. So, for example, we we've been undergoing this audit of the land use regulations. And that's kind of a free time project. And this is about bringing our regulations up to date to eliminate, there's some contradictions and there's it's very difficult to navigate. So it's very difficult to sort of improve. Projects like that. And then moving on from that, being able to have the time to produce meaningful and well thought out changes to land use policies because you know, you know, the some of the zoning changes in land use policies that we talk about improving are not just switches we can turn on and off. They take a tremendous amount of analysis and research. So it's not just whip this up and spit it out. There could be a lot more outreach. So when we're talking about maybe improving some of the business district zoning and maybe some design standards, things like that, you can only be sure you're talking to those business owners and to those landowners. So there's a lot of outreach that if you want those articles to be successful, that outreach has to be done. I mean, those are a couple of examples. There's you know, I could come up with plenty. I think we could do a cap fee analysis to determine a number of projects that would be eligible and doable with our impact fee money.

Selectman Guessferd said, as a follow up, and so that's I mean, that's what I'm seeing. I mean, I know we've had one session, one workshop in the Planning Board on the regulations. And if you've had some time to look through some of those regulations, they they are all over the place. You know, you added this here, you add this here, next thing you know, you look at them. I mean, I mean, that's something that has to be done in my mind. And as we move forward over the next I see as, as we, as we kind of look to the future and go, I envision that there's going to be a lot more activity with regard to zoning ordinance and zoning changes as we move forward, as we figure out where we're heading. And from my perspective, I see a need for this. And again, I understand there's other needs as well, but I think this is kind of going to be at the center of of where we're pointing ourselves. And it seems to me that that and this is not a negative on your department, but you're just you're keeping the doors open right now. You're, you're doing the day to day things that need to be done and that there's so much more that that could be done from a strategic perspective, I think. But right now you're processing, you're doing all those things that as they're hitting it, it's almost like firefighting. That's my perception of it and that doing this would allow some more of that strategic work to be accomplished and, and to continue the same level of activity that we're going on right now. That's just my thought. Having kind of experienced a bit of the board in the last several months.

The Chairperson replied, I agree. I think there's some things that are probably not being done that should be done because there's only one person they had to do them right. Selectman Morin said I go along with Selectman Guessferd, but my issue is if you split this position, I'm sure zoning is going to want half of that time. And the problem is if you've got somebody doing part time now and we're not keeping up, is that going to work? Mr. Groth replied, yeah, I think there's a big difference between having somebody that comes in for a couple of hours twice a week and someone who's in the office full time. You know, I don't know exactly what that breakdown would be to your point between planning and zoning, but there's a lot of shared work there, too. I mean, it is the Zoning Department. Selectman Morin replied, right. But there's only one guy and dealing with zoning in the past and listening to the other night and knowing that we don't get any code enforcement to catch up is going to take a lot of time at this point. That's my question. Do we do we have to get a specific person for your department? That's what I'm asking. How is it? He's going to need at least half of that time a week. I would assume at this point. Mr. Groth replied, we could both use a full time person. I mean, there's a capacity issue in more than one department. This was, I would consider a conservative approach to try to address capacity issues in parallel departments.

Selectman Morin then said and this is not directed towards you. This is directed towards everything. But again, instead of dealing with the problem, we split it in half, you know what I mean? Instead of just getting things done as we're supposed to. That's my concern. The Chairperson replied, I don't disagree with you, although I will also say that and somebody can correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe the Zoning Administrator believes with a part time person, I'm not saying we don't I don't know that we need two full time people, like maybe full time and a part time person. Selectman Morin replied, that's what I was. That's what I was trying to get clear. He's going to want half of that time. So that's going to take a lot of time from you and that's 20 hours you're not going to have that person. I would assume.

Selectman Guessferd said when you came forward with this position, I'm assuming you I mean, you believe that we can fill 40 hours a week with an associate planner. Mr. Groth replied, absolutely. I mean, I see this position as a planning position, but I don't know what the breakdown would be. Bruce and I haven't discussed that, but. Selectman Morin asked, is there some way you and the Zoning Administrator can sit down and put together how you would plan to use this and send us some information? Again, like Selectman Guessferd said, if you're doing I know it's more help than you got. Now, don't get me wrong, but I think you need way more than that. Mr. Groth replied, yes, that's something we can do. Absolutely.

Selectman Guessferd said just break it down. I believe you're asking. We're asking this as an additional as additional part of the budget, not as a warrant article. Chairperson Roy said the positon exists. Selectman Guessferd then said so, yeah, it's just. I think we can show it here. Just a little bit of a break down because I believe you need this. And I believe it's going to be important where we're heading. And so, I'm in support of it.

Seeing no further questions for Mr. Groth Chairperson Roy said thank you. Selectman Gagnon said thank you for everything you do, Brian.

Police (5610-5673)

The Town Administrator said now the highlight of the evening, the Police Department with 5600. I think this is the Chief's maiden budget. Am I correct? This is the first time you're presenting by yourself. Chairperson Roy said he was here but he wasn't the guy in charge. Chairperson Roy said time flies when you're having fun I guess. The Town Administrator replied, it comes quicker and quicker every year. Trust me. Selectman McGrath said I went over this budget with a fine tooth comb. Jokingly the Town Administrator added, and a magnifying glass. Chairperson Roy said so I will recognize Chief Dionne, even though I got a disappointing text message from you today.

Chief Dionne began by saying good evening. And before I get started, I want to thank the men and women of the Hudson Police Department for their service and their dedication to the community throughout this year. They have made my, they have facilitated my transition as police chief. Regarding the budget, I would also like to thank and single out my appreciation to my administrative coordinator, Sherrie Kimball and Captain Cayot, Captain Bianchi, Captain Davis, Jana MacMillan, all my lieutenants and Master Patrol Officer Jason Downey as well, for their assistance through the process. I think without their help; I would not be able to do my job effectively. Sherrie and the command staff met with me on a number of occasions to work through this budget. Master Patrol Officer Downey has worked with me, developed a wellness program and put together a warrant article.

Chief Dionne went on to say, during the FY24 budget process while trying to keep the same standard of excellent police service with level funding. My staff and I focused on training, equipment, well-being at a time when costs are skyrocketing due to inflation. We are legally bound to increase our training budget from an additional 8 hours of training in 2020 to 24 additional hours of training in 2024 for each officer. And I say additional because each officer must have a mandatory training in several disciplines which are firearms, use of force, de-escalation, defensive tactics. So the additional training equates to a total of 816 total hours at our police department, which is two days of training per officer. That also may require that we have to post overtime to cover those officers or in class supplies required for our training, for instance, ammunition is also challenging with increasing costs. We attempt to tackle these concerns, we continue to utilize creative methods to fulfil these needs, like hosting, training, seeking out federally funded and state funded classes and applicable for using asset forfeiture and grants as well.

We concentrated on continuing the need to replace safety equipment and fund other equipment which will enable us to effectively and efficiently police the town. This includes Tasers, body worn cameras and rifle rated shields. While navigating through this budget without increasing any operational spending. We did determine there may be additional shortfalls in technology. We worked with Mr. Beike on this matter in an effort to cover big increases in our technological contracts that are essential to our police work. I believe the IT Director had covered this on Tuesday as well as I watched the meeting. Additionally, we are addressing the essential well-being of our police officers and employees as a whole. This is both a major recruitment and retention issue. It also increases our resilience. This area of focus gives our employees the ability to take care of the safety and welfare of this town. And these businesses here, while we're taking care of our own safety and our welfare. I will be presenting to our articles for your consideration, the first being the safety equipment and body worn cameras Capital Reserve fund, which will allow us to help pay, continue to pay, for our Tasers and our body worn cameras. Also, the Hudson Police Department will need to purchase additional rifle rated shields, among other safety equipment.

We have further asking for the addition of one police officer to the current staff to backfill the creation of a position of a wellness officer who would be named from our existing staff. The wellness officer would oversee a robust wellness program for all employees at the Hudson Police Department, further enhancing our ability to manage stress of critical incidents, employee peer to peer support and build resilience, and to continue adding tools for our department's health and wellbeing. Moreover, though the wellness officer would be deployed to any town department as needed to assist with crisis or tragedy, in addition to the police duties, our wellness officer would be the link to the Nashua greater mental health to assist officers that calls and help citizens make contact with resources needed to facilitate critical mental health services. Our wellness officer would be responsible for developing CIT, a crisis intervention team to be utilized for the benefit of the community when dealing with tragedies and crisis.

As we manage through our fiscal 2024 budget I do not foresee an immediate fix to the inflation problem, and I am anticipating full potential of continuing rising costs on supplies, maintenance contracts and fuel. And if that's the case, I believe we may need to continue to operate with vacancies to make ends meet. I

know you've all had a chance to look over our budget and our warrant articles, so I'm happy to take any questions you might have.

Chairperson Roy asked, anybody have anything? Selectman McGrath said I looked through the budget and pages two and three, I have no questions at all. And I look at the I look at the actuals for fiscal year '22 and '21, and then to see what the budget was approved at last year and do a comparison. And I, I have no issues at all with this budget.

Chairperson Roy said I have a question. 157, the education incentives.... are, is that based. The Town Administrator said the education incentives are based on contract. To which Chairperson Roy said and I understand that. But is the number in the contract or is that based on? The Town Administrator replied, the number is in the contract, if you take a certain degree or college credit or whatever. It's a specific number. Chairperson Roy replied, I didn't know if it was based on the number of officers enrolled in a program or if it was just a. The Town Administrator replied, I don't know, the page number, but there's a whole list. So it's in the document. Chairperson Roy said that was my only question.

Chairperson Roy asked, does anybody have anything else? The Town Administrator said 5616 facilities, page 8. Chairperson Roy asked, anybody have any questions about facilities?

Selectman McGrath said and again, I looked at this line by line and I have no issues. Chairperson Roy asked, Anybody else? Selectman Gagnon said just quickly it's not a question, but just want to highlight. The \$10,000 almost lowering electrical rate, I believe, because you do LEDs in the facility. Is that correct? Chief Dionne replied we did we did put in LED's. Selectman Gagnon replied, the \$10,000 it's good to see. thank you.

Chairperson Roy said 5620 Dispatch/Communications. Anybody have anything for dispatch?

The Town Administrator said it's predominantly salaries and benefits. So it depends on the benefit levels people elect. Selectman Gagnon said I have a question Madam Chair, if I may. Line 204, gentlemen. I just see the actuals in the mid-twenties. Forgive me I looked at this wrong. I saw last year was \$40,000, but this year \$37,000. it's a \$10,000 or more increase there. Just quick explain some of that. This is large equipment maintenance. Again, 204. The Town Administrator replied, I believe this is the fleet of vehicles for their fleet, for their vehicles including the electronic components.

Chief Dionne added, right so with the large equipment, it's exactly that its fleet. So as we turn over our police cruisers and have we expect less maintenance necessary as we continue to to actually have newer models, I guess what I would say. Selectman Gagnon replied, got it. I should clarify my point, too. I mean, I know from last budget you budgeted \$40,000 this year, \$37,000 so you did decrease it for the actuals are still in mid mid-twenties. Why do you think you need \$37,000 when actuals for the last three years were mid-twenties? Now are you expecting additional hardware for some reason?

Selectman McGrath asked, don't you have cruisers on order? The Town Administrator said so typically we budget the 40 across the board and that's what we just actually spend because it's one of those variable things that you don't know what's going to go till it all goes. So I hazard a guess if we looked at the actual budgets from those years, it was probably \$40,000 across the board. We only spent the 20 to 20 to 20. It's an estimate at best. Cpt. Bianchi said it usually is \$40,000 In the past years, but we've only used that much of it. For oil changes, brakes, tires. There has to be a buffer just in case of a catastrophic problem like we had a couple of years ago, where eight units went down at just about the same time. Selectman Gagnon then said and to Selectman McGrath's point, you have new new vehicles coming. And do they need to be outfitted with new hardware and you're expecting it to come into this line item? Chief Dionne replied, yeah, no, absolutely. We actually take that from the vehicle, from the view that said, we are going to run into a shortfall. We do anticipate a shortfall in the in the vehicle line slightly because of the cost. We're looking at April costs for instance. Right now we were looking at April cost when we went forward with our police cruiser purchases. Those have already changed and they went up dramatically. We have to outfit one. So we just ran into that the other day and I was before this Board a few weeks earlier going with our estimates at the time. And as soon as we actually purchased the vehicles, then the estimates on the outfitting went up. So we do we do have to keep a certain amount of buffer in some of these lines to that point. Cpt. Bianchi added, just to add to that, what we've done, we've been meticulously going through the up-fit and we told the up-fitter, whatever you can get out of the cruiser that works is going into

the new cruiser. So we've already cut many thousands out of the up fit to try to bring that down to meet the actual budget. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. All right.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said just a question on just so I understand. 307 it was \$14,000 \$13,000, \$7,000. Now it's up to \$14,000 again, just what's why does it fluctuate so much. Chief Dionne replied, the fluctuation on that is where they're not. We are having existing mileage on the cruises that are okay. So we anticipate in '24 that we are going to need to replace more of the snow tires. And that's exactly what it comes down to. We have a certain inventory that still has life. And as we as we go through the tires that are waiting for us in the inventory, we expect we're going to need to replace them in '24.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said just a general question, Madam Chair. I think early in the year we at least this Board had a discussion, maybe the School Board as well, about the possibility of transferring the crossing guards to the School's budget. Is that transcribed into anything we see here today, or is it kind of the same? Cpt. Bianchi replied, we're still... they're still under our they are still in our control. Selectman Gagnon asked, is that what you prefer or is there still talk to maybe switch it or are we? Cpt. Bianchi replied, it would be nice to partner with them. A lot of the school districts around us actually are the ones that handle the crossing guards, not the police departments. Yeah, we're probably in the beginning stages of trying to figure that out with the new Superintendent. Chief Dionne said we have had.... we've continue to have conversation on that. We have not moved forward anywhere. And I to be honest, I don't know if I can move forward without the Board's approval anyways on that. And so we are in the we have discussed it, but we haven't gotten much further and I've gotten a lot of data on it. Chairperson Roy said yeah, I saw it. yeah because I came up at the joint School Board meeting.

Chief Dionne then said and I guess it would be, obviously it would be a lot easier if it wasn't our issue. But I also understand that it has to be someone's issue and at the end of the day, it's still the taxpayer's problem. Right? So I don't and I guess that's what I'm saying. I would love, if somebody wants it, we would love to let them have that. But if they don't, we understand the fact that this is what we're at. Chairperson Roy replied, but I would also presume you'd have to have some involvement, like with training and those kinds of, you know, those kinds of things. It wouldn't be a just a cut. Chief Dionne replied, right. We actually provide classroom training on it. And so that is something that we could still help facilitate where they go to the class for that. But yeah.

Selectman Morin then said when you say you got to stay under control, I understand that. But couldn't they pay for that and just remain under the Police Department? Chief Dionne replied, well, I suppose that would be great, too. Selectman Morin went on to say you've got to control it, it's just a part of your budget coming from the Schools versus the Town. Chief Dionne said the more I guess, the problem kind of the money wise would be great too. But I mean, the problem we run into sometime is the actual control of it. Because if we can't cover... if the posts are uncovered or we have vacancies that we can't fill, they're covered by police officers. Selectman Morin replied, right. And that's why it would stay under you. But they would they would fund the positions under you. Like we fund the positions under you. That type of thing. Chief Dionne replied, they may be willing to do that, I suppose, but from our standpoint, it would be easier if we didn't have control of them. And that's my only issue because we are, we have usually at that time our we utilize our resource offices as our first coverage, but they they're not always available. And we've literally had more than student resource officers out. So we're manning the post with other officers. Chairperson Roy said but isn't that, I would think that that's something that that you and the School District could figure out like if you're short they call whoever at the PD and say, hey, we need coverage down at Alvirne or whatever and you guys help them out with that. But as for the most part, every day they belong to the School. Chief Dionne said mean, so since they directly report to us when they're out, they call us. And then we we make the coverage either with the student resource officer if they're available or with a patrol officer. And that's how it works now. And if the mechanism is that I'm I guess I would be ignorant to the mechanism of how we go about transferring that over. And so that's on me. I don't know what that mechanism is. And if there was a way and we were in agreement with it, you know, I would be willing to do that and we would be willing to do that.

Selectman McGrath said it'd be nice if they shared the cost. I mean, it would be nice. And, you know, and I know that it's all of the taxpayer's money, but at least, you know, if the School had by in on having to at least fund some of the some of the crossing guards that would that would alleviate some from your budget and add to their budget cuz they're not funding it now. Chief Dionne replied, and to your point, I think the Superintendent might be might very well be, be into that with us and work with us on that.

Selectman Morin then said so you've presented us information. You've had the basic conversation. You think or you would like our permission to move forward with it. It's obviously not going to happen this budget, because we're too far into it. So can we as the Board right now give the Chief permission to move forward with that for next year's budget? Chairperson Roy said yeah, I wouldn't have a problem with it. Although I'd like to see an MOU, something formal and how you guys are going to work together so that they get the right service at the right time and the training and all of that stuff. So everybody knows what they're responsible. Selectman Morin replied, they got, they got a year anyway. Chief Dionne added, I suppose if you were giving us permission to move forward and work towards that end, then when we get to that end present you where we're at. How would that sound? I mean, that works for us. I would love to try that. <u>Selectman Morin made this motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd</u>. The <u>motion authorizing the Police Chief to work with the School District to work out an MOU regarding the cost center for the School District Crossing Guards, carried 5-0.</u>

5650 Animal Control

Selectman McGrath said I had one question on that. Line item 245 the Animal Control Veterinary Services. The actuals for '22 were just under \$7,000. And what's budgeted, what was budgeted last year and this year is \$10,500. Is that going to be enough to cover? Chief Dionne replied, so that was, that was because we had a situation where we had to seize wild animals, exotic animals. So that's where that came from. And we A) we don't expect that year in and year out. And B), we have actually Jana's been almost a blazer, I would say, in this in this avenue where she's I think she was literally the first one who was actually able to get some reimbursement from the state's new fund in order to reimburse seizing animals that have been hoarded or abused and for evidence. So we don't we don't foresee, I don't foresee that happening very often. And when it does, we do know a mechanism now we were able to get some reimbursement on that. Selectman McGrath said that's the only question I had.

5615 Record Clerks

The Town Administrator said records clerks. Basically I think two full time employees. so pretty minims there. Labor.

5671 Other Office Supplies

Selectman Gagnon said, I have a questions there. Madam Chair. Thank you. So, line 303, gentlemen. Kind of all over the place. I see. 2020, almost \$4,000. 20211 zero, \$180. And you're budgeting \$5,000. Well, I'm sorry. You budgeted \$5,000 last year. \$4,000 this year. Can you just give me an idea of what that lines for and why you expect \$4,000? Cpt. Bianchi said other office supplies, 5671. Yeah, it's items needed for DARE and community policing related programs. Selectman Gagnon then asked, so that's why they were so low last two years? Chief Dionne replied, correct. And we expect to use this year. We also have we also have a donation account there that we can pull from as well. But that is why they're all over the map. We I don't believe we used it through COVID. Cpt. Bianchi added, we did not. DARE is back in session. It is they started this year again. So it's used to purchase things for that as well as things for like Old Home Days and community functions. Selectman Gagnon replied got it. It makes total sense.

And if I may, Madam Chair, one last question. Line for oh three small equipment. Again, just just kind of all over the place, \$3,000, \$10,000, \$73.00 and you're budgeting, close to \$13,000. Just give me an idea of why \$13,000 for the upcoming budget year. Chief Dionne replied, so yeah I mean so and a lot of this so we have we have to have keep a certain amount of for instance, our Tasers, we keep backup Tasers in that we keep certain simunition's for training. Selectman Gagnon asked, ammunition? To which Chief Dionne replied simunition. So they're a simulated ammunition. They actually they fire like ammunition, but they only hurt. Chairperson Roy asked, are they frangible? Are they the frangible? Cpt. Bianchi replied, no, they're paint rounds, Madam Chair. The Chair replied, Oh. Oh, those do hurt. So and again we budgeted in this year and it's funny you should I thank you for asking that we're actually trying to ... we expect in FY24 that we'll have a simunition exercise again as well. So we do expect to be utilizing that. It's going to, that's where it's going to come from as well so we expect to be using that to try to also do a large scale exercise with the School as well. Selectman Gagnon then said so I'm assuming that in 2022, you had none. I mean, obviously \$73. We had no exercises. Chief Dionne replied, we did not have one with simunition's at all. That is correct. Selectman Gagnon then said and this year, you're ramping that back up to 2021 kind of thing. Chief Dionne replied, right. And so and I think the other thing, too, is in 2022, I believe, is the year we purchased our brand new Tasers. So what we do have that money is an account to make sure we have spare Tasers on as well. So at that time, I think that's why the account was lower.

Selectman Gagnon replied, alright. Okay. Selectman McGrath said I saw that being done. Cpt. Bianchi said in '21 you'll notice it was \$10,000. That's because we replaced all our pistol rated shields. That's that expenditure. Chairperson Roy asked, and what is the lifecycle of those shields? Chief Dionne replied, five years. Generally speaking, and as you know, we're now looking at rifle rated. And last year we actually purchased with asset forfeiture, we purchased a couple of rifle.

Chairperson Roy asked, anybody have anything else? The Finance Director said page 31. Chairperson Roy said the crossing guards. I think we've had that discussion. So nobody has anything else about the crossing guards? Seeing nothing further they went on to Police Crossing Guard. Chairperson Roy said well you're probably going to save some on paid allowances. Chief Dionne replied, yes, we're struggling, but we're working on it. The Town Administrator said it's predominantly labor in this center.

5674 Bond Repayment

The Town Administrator said this is the first year of the repayment, so you'll see a principal in an interest payment and I put the schedule right behind it, two pages down. So every year the interest should decline somewhat. But again, we put it in I put it in this cost center because that's the repayment for the police facility. Chairperson Roy said nobody has any questions about that stuff? The Town Administrator said I reflected it in their budget.

The Town Administrator said, so I believe the Chief had presented in the warrant article tabs, Tab D a proposed warrant article for a wellness officer. If the Chief wants to speak to that. Selectman Guessferd said isn't that kind of a misnomer? You know, it's not really the wellness officer. It's a new position, wellness officer is going to be. It is a new position. Chairperson Roy said so I guess that's one of my questions. Are you adding one person to your manpower or is this instead of like a take and, say, a patrol officer and making them making that position a wellness officer?

Chief Dionne replied, right. So now we I would like to add a person to my staff. We'd like to add to hire a patrol officer in order to backfill from our current police officers and to take one of the current police officers and to make the position of wellness officer so that we're not running short when we have that position. I will I can tell you that I think the necessity on this is a three prong. It's a three prong necessity for us. I believe the best way to look at it is on three prongs. And first and foremost, the police department itself in the sense that, you know, statistically, police officers are about 2.4 times more likely to take their own lives than to die at the hands of another. And I think those numbers are terrible. I think that I can tell you personally, I've, I've known, we had one, we had an employee who had retired and just shortly after retired, took their own life. I've seen a couple of very promising officers lose their career to substance abuse. Police officers are more likely than most, by a lot, to have substance abuse problems. I think that. It is extraordinarily important in a time where recruitment or even more so in retention, has been so difficult that that we attack this in a way to keep our people healthy so that they can continue to do their job without any great mental health challenges.

Chief Dionne went on to say, I think that one of the reasons why we want to have a robust wellness program is that we learn that we've learned over the years, and it's taken a while. We started with a critical incident stress team. We morphed that into a peer to peer support team as well. But we're realizing now that it's not just important to address those issues as we as we approach them. It's also even more important to address the resiliency and start proactively. And that takes training, that takes constant application. We also look at statistics and I have them available if you want to see any of those statistics. But police officers also, unfortunately die in the line of duty of heart attacks. And part of our program is also health. It's not just mental health, it's physical health as well. And that's one prong right where I can show you some of the numbers if you're interested in that that I feel so strongly about, because I think it's important to take care of our people. The second prong that I feel so strongly about is we can utilize our wellness officer to assist any of the departments here in town, any of our town employees. And it wasn't that long ago when the Fire Department had a huge tragedy and we had an officer and he's here right now, Jason Downey, who was our first officer to receive critical incident stress management training. And he was instrumental in helping town employees throughout here because that particular employee was well known in other departments throughout town, deal with that. And I remember, you know, Chief Buxton talking about how important that was as well. And that was, we're scratching the surface. We're so much further ahead now than we were then at that. And we know that we can deploy that, we could deploy our wellness officer with the wellness tools to assist any town department here. And then the third prong is that our wellness officer is going to be available to assist our community. That's, that's a big part

of this. We would like to say we would like to have a crisis intervention team and I would like to have our wellness officer develop that initial crisis intervention team that will allow us not to just do what we now, but respond out too many disturbances, many mental health issues, and the officers who respond kind of take that lead in that role. And some of this could happen on second shift. This could happen on late nights. The follow up is then difficult after the fact, like the next day we don't have that officer works late nights. They're not making phone calls the next day to see how things went. So we pass it on and it gets over to another officer to try to follow up on that. Our wellness officer would be that officer. Not only to follow up, which is important, but also to make the first contact, perhaps with the with Greater Nashua Mental Health or whatever the resource might be. Our wellness officer will be that link, that liaison, so to speak. And I think that's, that that's a critical thing. We would need to deem certain something to be a crisis, right? Not everything is a crisis. A lot of things can be handled by the patrolmen. Their problem and we have an issue, but often we can handle it at that level. But we do have a handful of legitimate crisis households, families that are in crisis, and they need an intervention. And the officers know because they're there day after day until we're able to actually get a hold of foothold on. And it becomes difficult. That's a difficult situation. We expect that our wellness officer would be able to really help out in a situation like that.

Chief Dionne went on to explain, I think some of the first questions I thought to myself was, can we keep this person use your words, gainfully employed, so to speak. I almost think this person is going to have not they won't have enough time in the day to handle or I shouldn't say handle it. There'll be plenty to do. There'll be plenty to do all the time. Which includes, you know, some of our programs now are without a doubt their wellness programs like, for instance, National Night Out as a wellness program. I can make that leap, that that's a wellness program for the community. It's a community based wellness program. So that the wellness officer would also be will handle something like that. The comfort dog would come under the wellness officer, whether it was handled by that wellness officer or handled by someone else, the comfort dog would come onto that. We've already deployed the comfort dog, since we've had the comfort dog, we've deployed the comfort dog about 80 times already to actually provide comfort in the community for certain instances. Not to mention the amount of times we've sent the comfort dog out around the state, because that's not there's been many instances where the comfort dog has gone to other schools as a mutual aid and assistance with crisis and other issues. I wouldn't come forward if I didn't think this was an absolute need with it. I wouldn't. I think that, you know, you see where we are with our budget. And and I strongly feel this is a need for this town and for this police department.

Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said I absolutely 100% support the concept of the wealth officer and everything that you've described. Absolutely. It's I think it's absolutely needed. I just want to make sure that the way this is worded; it's just I just want to make sure that we represent this in the best way possible. Cuz, cuz, it's it's like we're we're saying that the wellness officer, there's an officer you have already who's going to replace a patrol officer who's well, the patrol officer is going to be the wellness officer and you're going to bring somebody new in. So the person, the new position is really the wellness officer position. But you're going to use a current employee to fill the wellness officer position and then you'll have a new patrol officer in addition on your staff. It just, the way it's just I had to kind of read through it a couple of times to kind of figure that out. But I mean, essentially the new position is really a wellness officer position. Chief Dionne replied, correct. And I guess I look back and how we've done it through the past because we're not actually funding the position of the salary of the wellness officer. They're already paid by us. We're trying to fund the person that's taken over. So we're asking for appropriations for a new officer. That's why it's not. For instance, if the wellness officer is a master patrolman, we're not necessarily hiring...we're not necessarily funding a mass patrol position. We're funding a new officer. So whatever it costs us for the new officer to take over. it's a back filled position, essentially what it is. Selectman Guessferd replied, right, Right. And we're calling it the warrant article title is one wellness officer. And it's again, I want to I want to represent this the best way we can so that the public will support this, get behind it. Chief Dionne replied, I appreciate that. It's I'm not a wordsmith. Selectman Guessferd said I mean, I'm just kind of struggling with this a little bit. I mean, looking for any other ways that we can. The Town Administrator said he's hiring a police patrol officer. That's what he's asking for. So it might be more appropriately labeled to, say, hire police patrol.

Selectman Morin said I agree with you. He's asking for an officer. But the actual position we're creating is the wellness officer. And that being a voter, I'm going to go in why we hiring a patrol officer when we're talking about a wellness officer in town meeting. And here at this meeting. That's my concern to. Because you missed the whole point of the wellness officer. Selectman Guessferd said right, that's the, that's the,

that's the hook. That's the need.

The Town Administrator said just call it Hire Police Wellness Officer. Then it's pretty clear what you're hiring. How you arrange it is up to you, right? You've got another body. So you say hire police wellness officer. Which is exactly what you're doing. Chief Dionne said my question is if I say I'm hiring a police wellness officer and that person that we actually hire, they're not a wellness officer. We're actually, Selectman Guessferd said we're hiring another patrolman. The Chief replied, that's correct. Because we want...as long as I can take the wellness officer from my current employees. The Town Administrator then said to Selectman Morin's point, if you say police patrol officer, it doesn't really give the frame of what you're trying to do. Chief Dionne said I just want to make sure I'm not doing something wrong.

Chairperson Roy said so, so, maybe it's just create wellness officer position. Selectman Gagnon said whoever applies, applies. The Town Administrator said you want to hire it too. The title isn't as important as the verbiage. The title is just a title. It's the verbiage what everybody looks at. So did it pass or not? Yes. Okay. You can go hire somebody and then you figure out who that...Chairperson Roy said so if I could just maybe make a suggestion that you two work together on the verbiage and then. Yeah. And then, you know. Chief Dionne replied, I don't want to mess that up. Trust me.

Selectman Gagnon then said obviously this goes without saying. Obviously I support the need for this, but I'm curious, what does your insurance company offer for mental health services? I know in my work we actually had a lot of similar type of wellness officers that are paid for through the insurance company and offer sessions and that kind of stuff. How far will insurance go to get you maybe three quarters of what you're asking for today. So I can really visualize the value out of a full time position, get you a little farther about what you talk about. Chief Dionne replied so you're talking about how what does our insurance company offer us? Selectman Gagnon replied, in terms of services and counseling and that kind of thing.

Chief Dionne responded, well, we do... to be honest, that's in my mind, that's a totally different subject matter. So that we have we have an employee assistance program. And through that employee assistance program, we can seek counseling. We can if we need to, we can facilitate that counseling. We can even order it if we were at that position with somebody. So we do have that ability through our insurance certain. But the wellness program is it's. Well, as far as far as what we're looking at in the police aspect, it's tailored for first responders. Right? It's tailored as far as on the police prong, a lot of it is peer to peer. A lot of it is building exercises. It's building that are that are tailor made for police officers. We do utilize additional services from there. We use Forge, which is a veteran and first responder program that they're there for us. They're there for us all the time. And our insurance would cover that as well. Right. We do have employees who utilize that. Generally, that's confidential with them as far as that goes. So I do look at it, it's that's probably another tool. And often it's administrative tool. And sometimes the wellness and the administration become blurred, which is good that we're working together. A lot of it like peer to peer, is really confidential to the often confidential until it reaches a certain level. Then we have a duty to communicate with administration in peer to peer. So I think the wellness is a large, large, large umbrella, which will also take into consideration like what our insurance does as well. But a lot of it is about a lot of it is about being proactive. And it's kind of ahead of that that game that the insurance for us is a lot of time would be reactive I think. Selectman Gagnon replied, that that in itself, I think that that's a great response and to kind of curtail on that a little bit.

So you're saying will the wellness officer be almost a wellness director? He'll see programs, policies and he'll oversee a lot of what you already have going on. Is that part of the role as well? Chief Dionne replied, so I've thought about this a lot because we are in the process of kind of formulating and I have Lieutenant McElhinney's working on policy and I've had Jason Downey work on policy regarding this. The more I look at it, I almost want the wellness office to have a direct, direct contact with me so that, you know, obviously we will put we put the wellness officer in our service bureau because it does fit that. But the wellness officer in our, in our chain would, would answer it probably directly to me. And I think I've seen that, to be honest with you. There's only one other right now that I know of. There's one other agency in the state that has a wellness officer. It's Manchester PD. They do a really good job over there. They're trained to handle their stress, their critical incidents, their peer to peer support. They do an exceptional job. And we're looking at a lot of their things, but we're trying to tailor fit it to us. They do it that way. The wellness officer answers directly to Chief Aldenburg, and at first I'm like, Yeah, no. But then I thought about it and some of that I understand completely because some of the stuff may be confidential, you know? And so we're working out those details. We have not finished a wellness policy yet, but it's in the works. We've been working on it for a while.

Master Patrol Officer Jason Downey said, just to answer your question about I think the services or clinicians, as you usually referred to as the clinicians that we have. So technically when an officer needs assistance prior to more than I can assist because I'm not a psychologist, not a psychotherapist or anything like that, we refer on our clinicians that can help and they're especially trained in first responders care. The Forge VFR they're either first responders or prior first responders or veterans themselves. So they're very familiar. But for an officer to be vulnerable, to trust somebody, it's very difficult to try to get them through that door. What happens is, me as the wellness officer, I can tell you that we have vetted everyone that we use. And then when I talk to them and I work very closely with them now with everything, if we ever have a debrief, those clinicians are the ones that step up, rain or shine. 24/7 they would come. And if we really needed a critical incident that I know I could call three or four of them and they'd be on my doorstep right away to help our officers if they need be. So if I ever came in a jam at one point they were actually full capacity and then we kind of needed something. I called them and they have other resources for us, so we've already had that relationship with them and we and we constantly building that relationship. So for me to say, you know, I trust these, that officer might go, okay, I trust you because we I've built that rapport with them and trusting. But if I say to go and we've actually had it before that we've gone to other therapists and the therapists are horrified of what they say or saw because they don't know. You know, sometimes we could have rough language and all of a sudden like, oh my God, I can't believe you made that joke. That's not appropriate for what you just saw. And then all of a sudden now they feel even guiltier than they left out. So we want to avoid that because these guys, day in and day out, give what they the best they can do to protect us and keep everyone safe. And unfortunately, we see some horrible stuff on a daily basis, you know, and most of us can process it. And hopefully, like the Chief said, if we build resilience as soon as I get them out of the academy and, you know, this wellness officer talks to them about what they're about to see and we prep them for what you're about to see and how you're going to feel. And we build the resilience up that makes them stronger and not burning out. The average suicide rate is usually about 16 years, you know, and it's about 40 years old. You know, we have a bunch of guys that are somewhat approaching that or past that. And so if we're not building this resilience and then some guys just call it guits before five years, you know, if you do the notes with the academv.

MPO Downey went on to say so we do that. And, you know, it helps with retention because all of a sudden, like, I'm not made for this. But again, at the same time, the whole wellness process, we reach out to the spouses, we're going to try to incorporate spouses because if you're not happy at home and it's tough at home because it's stress, there's a whole combination. It's like it's just a whole backpack. Like I have four kids. It's tough to manage this job four kids and a spouse and trying to keep everybody manageable, happy and trying to protect myself. But if I'm distracted on the street, I could let my guard down and it becomes an issue. And we're trying to resolve that. And we're trying to work on having a spousal, you know, meeting where we talk about this is what they expect because our training out of the academy, you know, we just go through the door. We're rough and tumble and and don't be vulnerable. Don't let anyone show you're weak. But we have to show that we have to be vulnerable to our loved ones and be that. And if no one tells us that we're just going to keep on trucking like, you know, and again, our divorce rate in the national average is about 50%. Police is 82%.

Selectman Gagnon then said and gentlemen, don't get me wrong, this is all...MPO Downey said yeah, no, no, I'm just telling you. Selectman Gagnon continued saying yeah, as a board who is in a budget meeting, I simply ask the question, can we get these services through other avenues? That's all I was trying to say. MPO Downey replied, so I will tell you that. I will tell you that. Yes. So ultimately, we reference that out and it's covered by insurance. And if they don't if they don't cover that insurance, they will help me find another service provider that is comfortable and vetted, that we vetted too, that meet their insurance. And that's ultimately what we do. Selectman Gagnon replied, thank you for all of that. Appreciate it.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said Tad, you and I have already talked about this. I'm completely in favor of this wellness officer and the program. You know, as, as I've said many times, I listen to the news. I have it in the background. So I'm not sitting there watching a TV screen, watching the news, but I hear bits and pieces over the course of the day and I can't imagine, I can't imagine some of the things that you have to witness, experiences that you have, I mean, I would never in a million years be able to handle that. And I can't imagine, you know, I mean, it's got to be really difficult. And for everybody. for your family, your yourselves, your coworkers. And so I think that this is this is much needed and I'm in full support of it. I'm also in full support of the comfort dog. And I have a question about the comfort dog that I didn't think of before. You said that Haven has been sent out to multiple places over the last year or two. How long is Haven going to be able to continue as a comfort dog before she gets burned out?

MPO Downey replied, Haven will be four in February, and that's the unknown. Because she's like the second, third comfort dog in New Hampshire. And right now, the first comfort dog in New Hampshire is in Concord, and she's turning five, like next next week or in the next month or so. So we don't know. I mean, usually a canine officer last sometimes eight years before the hips, but there's a whole different thing. So it's kind of the unknown. I think it's as long as she's okay with having people give her belly rubs and head pats and taking treats, I think she'll go as long as she can. But I it's really an unknown. I'm not seeing. She goes for a yellow checkup. She's in great health. She's healthy, she's of great weight. So we're always checking on that. And, you know, I know they do absorb it, but some of that energy from it. But at the same time, she loves it. So she's not happy when she gets it. You know what? Dog wouldn't be happy to sit on the couch. She gets upset when she has to sit on the couch for a couple of days and she gets wound up and she wants to see the kids. Selectman McGrath replied, so we're not in danger of losing her anytime soon? MPO Downey replied, no. I have four children and I have one in college and one about to go to college. I'm not going anywhere. Chairperson Roy said I think she meant the dog. No offense, but I think she meant the dog. Chief Dionne said everybody means the dog. Jason goes to this all the time when he realizes it's one of his things he has to manage it. One of the stressful things he has to manage. We care about the dog, the heat dog. But interestingly enough, and I don't know if you know this, but I believe a lot of the original dogs are related in here in New Hampshire. They're actually family, believe it or not. The original the original comfort dogs.

Selectman McGrath then said so the other part of my question is, would you want a second comfort dog to assist with Haven? I mean, is that is that something that you've thought about or is it? MPO Downey replied, I think at some point I think potentially I mean, I think it's a great program, not because I helped build it or anything like that, but I think I mean, obviously that becomes an administrative, I don't I think one at the moment it's good. But I think once we get close to me calling it quits and we start to replace and I think we can mentor, you know, Haven maybe the last year or so and then then the transition is out. Because I think just like a regular canine, I think she'll be upset if I don't retire with her, then I think she might get a little upset that I'm always leaving because I spend more time with her than I do my family. We're with each other, almost 24/7.

Selectman McGrath went on to say so the reason why I asked that is because I know that Chairman Gasdia had questioned about having another comfort dog assisting in the schools and they were, at the time, and I suspect that he still would support that, that they would help with the fees of that. So.

Chief Dionne replied, yeah, and I mean, to be honest, we don't really have a lot of the taxpayers don't pay really much for anything for Haven, which is great. That's what I mean it's all donations. And so that is I mean that is obviously something we could look into more, I think, in that role for sure. And I certainly would no mat. I mean, if I was here and I think I can speak for that as far as if I was in charge, that there would definitely be a phase in phase out if we were if we were losing Jason and Haven, I would definitely want the next comforter. I can't say I was a believer when we first heard of the program. But I can tell you I am now. I have seen it. I have seen it. You, I, Jason, will tell you, I'm the probably the sometimes the skeptic in the room. But I've seen this work. I've seen it really capture some tough moments, some really heavy, heavy moments that we're involved in, whether it be a really awful death notification or whether it be people grieving, whether it be community members grieving or officers grieving firefighters. I've seen it work. And I and it's it's a mystery of presence, I think, with the dog. When the dog's there, it's like it's there is there is a certain mystery that's going on. I'm a believer now, for sure.

MPO Downey then said but I think just like sometimes the mental you know, the mental health or the system part that we do now is sometimes it's obviously confidential. So it's the quiet. We are the man behind the scenes. I'm not going to post on Instagram and Facebook. I helped out this community during this tragic time because that's not, I don't feel it's appropriate. So but at the same time, some people do, but at the same time we're there and we're not looking for gratitude. We're not looking for, oh my God, that's awesome. If you ask me, I'd be more than happy to tell you we've gone all over like he said, the state, But we're not. I'm not going to say we do all this. I think sometimes we just got to trust that when we tell you that she's being utilized on a daily basis and I'll tell you, meet me in the middle school, she's being utilized every single day. I am in the counseling office. I am somewhere. There is one kid. I'll tell you right now, part of a kids reward system right now is he gets to pet Haven if he has a great day. I'm not kidding. One person wants to try to write it into his, you know, individual IEP plan. They really want it to at one point. But, you know, so I'm not always in the building, so, you know, but I was, that's the impact that she has. I've had kids come up to me and say she's the best thing that ever happened to my middle school.
So, I mean, the daily impact I could have people, unless you really ask them. But again, it's we're there and we're there to support and we're not looking for accolades. And I think some people, you know, I just I'm not going to promote it that way on somebody's tragedy. So and that's what we're usually we're there for tragedy. Selectman McGrath replied, and I will thank you for that, because I know that some like to use Facebook and social media, but I'm not one of them.

I will say the confidentiality program is interesting. Jason will often tell me that he's needed or has been requested in a certain area. And that's kind of where we go with the conversation. Like, okay, you know, I know where you're going to be and when are you going to be there. And so interestingly enough, I'll tell you this, I happened to be in another community on my day off in an entertainment fashion. You know, I was going to I was at a history museum or whatever, and I end up writing the police chief a thank you, because he had an officer there who was just so helpful to the community. I wrote him a thank you and he responds back, telling me how he met Jason Downey and the dog and how that the Jason was helping them get to a comfort dog. I had no idea that that was going on. And so that was the response back from them. So like I said, I mean, it's a really good program. That's one small tool of what we're trying to accomplish in this umbrella of a wellness program. It's actually a great tool. Selectman McGrath said yeah, the middle-schoolers in particular need that.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said if you don't mind, I'd like to ask Officer Downey these questions, if that's okay with you. Because he's the expert. Chief Dionne replied he's definitely the expert. Selectman Morin jokingly said to MPO Downey, well, you came forward, so you brought yourself into the fire. Selectman Morin then said Police and Fire I know you've handled those both and you've got experience that works and get it. The Chief said you could help other departments. Are you going to be able to write a policy and formulate a program for the differences that would happen in this building in public works if the needed arise? Because this is a different, different environment to police and fire which you got down?

MPO Downey replied, I mean, I could do an education. We can do an education piece that they feel and I could say show you sign of symptoms of burnout, compassion, fatigue or whatever it may be just overworked and you just exhausted or maybe someone's having trouble at home or maybe the life work balance is off kilter. We could I could do that training to the supervisors. And then if they ever had a problem or they wanted me to reach out, I'd be more than happy or the wellness officer could reach out to them and give them the assistance. Now, again, that would talk about, again, VFR and Forge deals with first responders. So town employees would have to look and I could do other things. And we do have access to working with the EAP as well if they need to. So but I think that's there's definitely something I could do, the trainings that we could do to staff members here in town hall and wherever and signs and symptoms of what we can look.

Selectman Morin said and my point I'm going to lead into is a wellness officer throughout the town. When an incident takes place, it takes time to get the people in here. We may need somebody like you if something took place here the way the world is, things can happen here. Could you come in and start that process yourself like you would do for police or fire for this building in public works? MPO Downey replied, yes. Typically, what it would be almost like kind of a diffusion type thing. We'd make a quick assessment and we'd probably be able to I could be able to assess people like, no, you need a ride home from you need to have someone pick you up. You're not in a good state to go. kind of talk about what they might be experiencing. We will meet again. This is what happened. This is what occurred. And then this is the emotions that you could feel shortly after. And then we can process it in a group type method individually, and then we can give you all the things of some symptoms, everything that you might need to help out.

Selectman Morin then said my next question. And the Chief brought up community and I'm not talking the schools because you've already worked there. There's a program with that. We had some major incident in town dealing with the community itself. Is this something in that position? Again, it takes time to get a team in here, especially a big incident that you could start right away and start working with the community as a whole. I know you can't do it yourself, but you can put this process into place. MPO Downey replied, so ultimately, right now, this this federal funding for CTI training and it's a 40-hour training that deals with mental health through NAMI, that's what they have right now. So obviously that part of that training incorporate and have maybe some other officers do that. But at the same time, I'd be building my relationship with the mobile crisis team from Greater Nashua Mental Health and if I really needed them, which they are 24/7 for the most part, I could then use them as resource or respond and at least help the other officers that could be trained in it. Or we could work together as a team with my direction to calm or

quell the situation in appropriately, almost like be, I guess, the supervisor in the sense of managing to control the situation and then figure it out and then kind of wrap it around until we were able to again. we're like, I'm a triage. I'm really the triage. Selectman Morin said exactly. And that's what I'm talking about. MPO Downey continued saying, I'm going to stop the bleeding until the surgeon can get there. But yes, ultimately, that's what I mean. I mean, we are we at triage. So, I mean, but I mean, ultimately, yes. I mean, we could definitely do that. And I think that's where me, the Chief we're talking about, that's where the position could help, too. And it's talking to the resources. Like if we then can train Nashua Mental Health is seeing this or and I actually went to the ERs I went to the access teams. I went to Southern. Hey, what could we do better that makes the transition when we have somebody that's suicidal? I've met with the Nashua mobile crisis team, you know, and we're trying to establish a relationship and where if I. Hey. We have this. Can you come down? Well, it really doesn't make my criteria, but I'm trusting your gut on this. I might come. I don't know. But that's hoping with building that relationship with it, that we're able to, one, make it safer for our officers. One, make it so if we can avoid any conflict, we can actually keep the citizens safe and less paperwork. No one gets injured, you know, because if someone goes hands on, officers could get hurt. The person could get hurt. And it's all mental health. But if we're able to quell the quiet it down and everyone can go peacefully because we've been trained or able to articulate and explain it, you know, unfortunately, sometimes we can't. But if we can, majority of the time do that, I think it's a benefit for the whole entire town.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you. I'm sorry to drag this on. It's a very interesting conversation. And again, I again reiterate enough the need for it. My question now turns a little differently. If you were to get the resource officer, let me restate this. Do you have any open positions right now? Chief Dionne replied, I have several. I have three police positions open. Selectman Gagnon then said not including if you took this officer off the street and made a wellness officer? Chief Dionne said that would be four. Selectman Gagnon then said all right. That's all I was thinking of. Thank you.

Chairperson Roy asked, anything else? As we talked, I have the same quandary that I did with all the rest of them, so I won't say anything more than that. Thank you.

Selectman Gagnon then said sorry. Sorry. One last thing. I asked this of the fire guys will ask and I ask them to look into pre buys for propane oil, that kind of thing. Chief Dionne replied, we have natural gas. Does that make a difference? Selectman Gagnon asked, you have it plumbed right into the building? The Chief replied, yes correct. Selectman Gagnon then said all right. It doesn't apply.

Chairperson Roy said, Chief I was mistaken, you have another warrant article. Chief Dionne replied, I do the Capital Reserve Fund. The Chairperson said it's an easy one. The Chief jokingly said I assume we didn't have any questions, So we. So we obviously, we wanted to know if the town would vote to raise the appropriate sum of 100,000 from the general fund balance of June 30th at 2023, which would be added to Police Safety Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, which was previously established March 9th, 2021. So just in our existing Taser contract, which is a brand new, brand new tool that we received last year, because our old ones were outdated and they were no longer under warranty with Axon, the company that runs them. Just with that, we have an annual contract of fee of over \$35,000. And with the body worn cameras, our contract fee for fiscal 24 would be \$70,000. That alone is brings us to some of \$105,000, etc. And so that's why we're asking for that capital reserve fund to be replenished up to \$100,000.

The Town Administrator added, I just want to be clear, too, that he's asking for it to come from the unassigned fund balance, which we had a quick conversation about this evening. That would certainly make it more palatable for the taxpayer, because, again, it would be coming from money that we've already raised and it would save a couple of cents on the tax rate. So I just wanted to articulate that when I sort of give the summary, I didn't price it that way, but if the Board forwards that, we could price it that way, knock a couple of cents off of the estimate that we have in the first place. Chairperson Roy said but I think my concern would be that if it didn't pass like this, then you wouldn't have the funds available to. Right? I don't know if that's a risk anybody wants to really take. Chief Dionne replied, right. I think so. When we looked at that, I mean, obviously we're trying to stick with the level of funding the Board was asking. And so when we looked at that, we recalled back in in March last year, March of this year, I should say, Deliberative Session was in February? February, excuse me, that we were at the deliberative session, we had a taxpayer that somebody actually stood up and recommended that it come from the unassigned fund general fund. And so that's the language we stuck to when we went when we went forward with this, assuming the same reason that it would that was obviously palatable to the voters at the time, that we would just stick in the language that was written by the voters at the time. The Town

Administrator said the voters have been reasonable over the last two years in particular with this. I know it's always a risk, but that seems to be I think they recognize what the benefit of this is. I think when you make it easier for them by offering to do it through the unreserved, the unassigned fund balance, you certainly remove a lot of reasons to say no. And so I think it's probably a reasonable risk to take, especially if we keep a relatively short warrant.

Selectman Guessferd asked, how much is the balance now in the CRF? The Town Administrator replied, I'm not sure off the top of my head but right now he's looking to add \$100,000. Selectman Guessferd and Chairperson Roy both replied, right, right. The Town Administrator said but I think we've been spending \$100,000 we've been putting in every year to pay for these things because we've been in the default budget. So if it's anything, it's going to be pretty minimus. It has not built up a big balance because we've been using it. Chairperson Roy asked has it been \$100,000 every year? Chief Dionne replied, last year it was \$50,000 originally. And we asked appropriate \$100,000 because of the addition of the body worn cameras and Tasers. The Town Administrator added, yeah. It just hasn't built up because again...Chairperson Roy said it's only a couple of years and we still have the Town Administrator said well we've had to pay for the actual equipment. Chief Dionne said Yeah. We've been we've been utilizing it pretty well. Chairperson Roy said well, all that stuff has like a lifecycle, so you're cycling stuff out. Chief Dionne added, and that was I think I think it was suggestion of the Board that we, that we try to establish that fund as a matter of fact. The Chair said I personally think it's good fiscal policy because we don't have to keep going back to the taxpayers. The Town Administrator said it was easier in the olden days we could budget this, but. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah, I know, I know. We have to ask every time.

The Finance Director said so as of August \$106,778. The Chair replied, okay. All right. All right. Okay. Anybody else have anything else about the CRF? All right. Thank you. I think you're done now. Chief Dionne replied, I'm off the hook. Thank you. Thank you very much, everybody.

The Town Administrator explained, just real quick, there was a warrant article to raise money for the Property Assessment Capital Reserve fund. Mr. Michaud had advanced that. I've neglected to mention it during Assessing. It's I think, in the standard amount that he's been asking for. It's under the G tab. He's asking for \$25,000 to go into that reserve fund. As you recall, we try to fund that in advance so that when we actually do the reevaluation, we have the appropriate funding as opposed to trying to get it all at once. So that's been a long standing warrant article. So I just wanted to mention that in case, you know, I don't want to neglect it.

Recreation (5810-5839)

Chrissy Peterson, Recreation Director came forward and asked should I go through each cost center? The Chairperson replied, we go through it and if anybody has any questions.

Ms. Peterson said 5810 Recreation Administration, this covers a portion of our salaries, office supplies and miscellaneous equipment rentals for in the Community Center. And the operating operational side is down 9%.

The Chair asked, does anybody have any questions? Selectman Morin said just 208 - Telephone. That went up it. It was high. Went down. Went up again. 208. Ms. Peterson replied, so we had cut a line when we didn't have a summer program, and then we brought it back, so. Selectman Morin replied, okay. Thank you.

Facilities

Ms. Peterson explained, so facilities this covers this covers the Community Center building as well as the Senior Center building in a portion of the custodial salaries or in here as well. And we are up 3.1% on the operational side, mainly in I think it is 5814-224, which is building maintenance. And I feel that's critical to increase the unexpected repairs between the two buildings that might arise.

Chairperson Roy said you had some issues. like I know there was an AC issue at the Senior Center if I was. Ms. Peterson replied, we did. Actually in both buildings. Chairperson Roy said both buildings. Okay. Okay. And that's why you...that's where you sort of started. Anybody else have anything?

Selectman Gagnon said Chrissy, more of a general question, do you have like motion activated lights in the Community Center and the Senior Center? Ms. Peterson replied, in the Senior Center? Yes, in the community center, no. Selectman Gagnon asked is that something you can look into? Ms. Peterson replied, absolutely. Selectman Gagnon then said and that's similar to. I doubt you had a commercial rate environment, but we get those, those automatic thermostats, if it doesn't see motion, readjust. Ms. Peterson said I can look into that. I'm not sure what the rules are with that necessarily, because it is very busy with basketball and different things that go in and out. So I'm not sure on the regulating, but I'll look into that. Selectman Gagnon replied if it works for your facilities, it could be a cost savings there. And at very least the data that comes from them are pretty impressive. As it says, when you can save how much you use. I mean it they're pretty interesting system, so it helps be a little more sustainable if that works.

Chairperson Roy asked, anybody else have anything on supervised play? Selectman Guessferd said yeah, the only thing I want to mention, it's more of a comment is that we show 13, almost \$14,000, but that's just the beginning of your summer, you know, of the summer program. So. The Chairperson replied, right, that's only a portion of the, yeah. Selectman Guessferd went on to say, so I don't want folks to think because it says \$80,000 and we only spend \$13,000. You're going to be picking up that in the next year, you know, during that year. So cuz we just picked it up again, the program again this year. The Town Administrator replied, yeah this fiscal year. Selectman Guessferd went on to say, right, so it's I think the number is fine. I just think it's important when it kind of jumps out at you when you first look at it, it's like, no, you got to understand, that's the entire year, entire summer. Ms. Peterson replied, thank you. Yeah, because it does cross fiscal years. Our summer program. Chairperson Roy said I also think 2020, 2021 and 22 were affected by COVID. Selectman Guessferd agreed saying, oh, absolutely. They weren't as robust programs as they are.

Selectman Morin said let me ask you a question. When Public Works was here, we spent a lot of money on fertilizer. How is that going to affect you if we cut some of that? Ms. Peterson replied, the fertilizer? Selectman Morin replied, of the fields and things to that nature? Ms. Peterson replied, I mean, it would be Jette and Sousa Field that they fertilize for us there. So, I mean, we have our adult softball programs that are there so it could potentially affect them. Definitely. We don't, we utilize the school fields for lacrosse and our other programs, soccer Alvirne High School and those. But Jette and Sousa Field, DPW does a great job maintaining those fields for us. So it would affect those programs if it was an issue fertilizing it. Selectman Morin replied, okay, thank you.

Chairperson Roy asked, so Ballfields, anybody have anything other than? Moving on to Instructional Tennis - 5825. Chairperson Roy said so can I just ask a quick, you contract that out now, right? Like, you don't? Ms. Peterson replied, yeah. It's a collaborative program, the tennis program. So it's with USTA, so it really doesn't cost the town anything. The budgeted expense is just the portion that we're going to pay their instructors. So that's kind of how that is. But it is kind of a split program. We do take in roughly \$20.00 per person and then they get the remainder. So I'm just trying to put it back in there because we've had a default budget.

Lacrosse 5826

Chairperson Roy asked, anybody have any questions about that? Seeing none, the Chair then said just because I just thought of it. If we ever get...what is the field called? The Town Administrator replied Liberty Field. Chairperson Roy asked will that increase this program? Ms. Peterson replied, you know, I'm not sure, specifically, lacrosse. Lacrosse, I've talked to Steve about it a few times. It's been on a rapid decline unfortunately, it's very, it's a sport that's expensive, it's equipment specific. So it's not stuff that we can buy the equipment for everybody. It kind of has to be fitted. It's a great sport. I love it. My son, my daughter's played, but it doesn't seem, over the past six years, that as many people are interested in it. So I don't know what the fade is just yet. Fields will help in general across the board for all of our programs though. Chairperson Roy said and I get that. Ms. Peterson went on to say, you know, I had started a flag football for high school over the spring/summer months, but again, we had to utilize HMS for that. For soccer we're down at Alvirne on Saturdays and then we use the schools every night of the week. So the field will help no matter what.

Basketball 5831

Ms. Peterson said that's just decreased by 2.6% on the operations. Chairperson Roy asked, anybody have anything on basketball? Seeing none, they moved on.

Soccer 5834

Ms. Peterson said there's no change on that one. Chairperson Roy said I just want to say from what I see just on Facebook, we have a pretty big bang for a buck because there's a lot of kids that participate in soccer. Ms. Peterson replied, we do. It's amazing. And this year, the first time I mean, I've been with the town for ten years. This is the first time we are up over 150 kids. And that's not including our unified team that we started this year, which is kind of an all-inclusive team between kids that have disabilities, intellectual, physical, and that don't. So it's a great program.

Senior Center 5835

Ms. Peterson said this has a portion of, well, it has the Senior Coordinator salary as well. Chairperson Roy asked does anybody have anything for the Senior Center?

Teen Dances 5836

Ms. Peterson said this decreased by 20%, mainly because I can use the...Chairperson Roy said you can reuse stuff you already have. Ms. Peterson replied, yeah, and it's better. It's really money better spent in community activities as opposed to just the teen dances.

Community Activities 5839

This one is increased by, I think it's 38.2%. And the main increase is 5839-270, which is program materials. And that just allows flexibility and room to be able to continue to offer more and do more for the community. So it's important to add that. Chairperson Roy asked, anybody have anything? Selectman McGrath said that was the one thing that I had flagged.

The Finance Director said the last thing is IT. The Chairperson said I think we covered that with Mr. Beike. The Chair asked, do you have any warrant articles? To which Ms. Peterson replied, no. Chairperson Roy asked, any out of budget requests? Ms. Peterson replied, nope. Not this year.

Selectman Gagnon said let me know if this is the wrong form for this, but just to ask the question while you're here. Are you all set with everything that happened, with the power drops and all that kind of stuff? Has that been kind of straightened? I know there was a cost to that. Has that all been kind of straightened out? Ms. Peterson replied, yeah, it's all been straightened out on this end.

Chairperson Roy then said and then you're still working on the HVAC issue? Ms. Peterson replied, yes. The Town Administrator said so actually we let out a request for proposals. The Chair said I think I did see that. The Town Administrator said we'll get some data, we'll get some numbers, and we'll see what we can do. Ms. Peterson said, very specific, specific type of unit we need at the Community Center. Chairperson Roy said, I would presume with the type of building it is, I guess. Okay. All right. Thank you.

Town Officers

The Town Administrator said so go to the front of the book. Under Town Officers. Yes. So these are all the small some elected, some appointed boards and committees. I think without exclusion other than the tax collector, I think most of these are level funded. They're pretty minimal. A lot of these like I said, either elected trustees or the appointed members of other boards and committees. So.

Trustees of the Trust Fund (5020) - no questions

Cemetery Trustees (5025) - no questions

Town Clerk/Tax Collector (5030)

Chairperson Roy asked so are we going to go over separately the tax clerks? The Town Administrator replied, if you'd like to. Selectman McGrath asked, where are we Steve? The Town Administrator said we're on page one, and now we're moving if you'd like to go to the town clerk's office area, you would be going to page. It's 5030, page 6.

Chairperson Roy said so I don't necessarily have questions about this particular budget, although I think it's probably a good time to discuss. One of the recommendations in the manpower report was to split the tax collector and the town clerk's office. And if that is something that we wanted to pursue with an article

this year and in fact Mr. Malizia has taken the liberty of drafting said warrant article. I think it would be a good first step to address, I guess, some of the issues. It would give us a good base for. The Town Administrator said so this language is propagated with in consultation with the town attorney, because you have to do these things a certain way. As everybody is aware, we have a combined town clerk/tax collector. We are probably one of the last communities, particularly of our size, that has that. I think the only other one I believe to be in existence is Merrimack. The positions have gotten very sophisticated on their own. If you look at a town clerk and the election responsibilities and all that they do there. That's somewhat of a different skill set than being a tax collector and all the financial responsibilities that go along with that. So we've had some conversations through the year with the MRI report that we may be better served by having those positions split because, again, they do generally require some different subskill sets. Not everybody has this set and not everybody has this set. The clerk is an elected position. The collector could be an appointed position by this body. So you could actually go out and bid and figure out who would be the best person to be a collector. My understanding the collector wouldn't necessarily have to be a resident. The clerk does. If you were to forward this warrant article, this would not take effect until after next year's election. Not next March, March of 24. At which point, if it passed, you would then be able to go out and solicit candidates for the town tax collector. You could actually do, you could get going on it, but you couldn't hire them until after the next election. So for this year, there wouldn't be any impact. If it passed next year, you'd have to budget for the tax collector.

Chairperson Roy said and just so do we have a ballpark of what a tax collector would be? The Town Administrator replied well, I would think on the low end, with all full benefits, you're probably talking \$115,000. If you added up full benefits package. so it could be between \$115,000 and \$140,000 depending, and that's probably about a 60 something, upper 60's, lower 70's salary may or may not be enough, but that's a ballpark. Selectman Morin asked so where we don't fund it this year and we have to put it on the budget next year, is this considered like a labor contract that it's going to be in there? Or if they vote it down, we can't fund it? The Town Administrator said if the voters voted for it, you can put it in the default budget as well as the regular budget. Selectman Morin replied, okay what I was asking. The Town Administrator said because you voted for it. If they don't vote for it, we're not doing it. The Town Administrator said but by default, you've all voted for it. There's a cost. We budget it, but we'll stick it in the default budget. So it's covered. Selectman Morin replied, got it.

Selectman Guessferd said so I'm anticipating some people will maybe ask this question. So we got one person doing this job right now, one salary. And now we're asking...I'm not saying I disagree with this at all. I think this is a good idea. But people are going to say, okay, well, now you have two full time people and you got another \$115,000 that we're going to have to pay for. How do we respond to that? Because right now we got one person doing that job, right? Chairperson Roy replied, right but I think that...Selectman Guessferd said what more is being done could be done? Chairperson Roy said I think there's a lot of things. I think that that office is taking on a lot more responsibility. There's been two voter locations instead of one. They, they, as Mr. Malizia said, there's a specific skill set that goes with being a tax collector that is different than than in the town clerk. I think that we lost a lot when we lost our former town clerk/tax collector, cuz quite frankly, I don't know if this would be an issue if she was still with us. Right? But she's not. And we can't make up for that experience in one year. Right? Like that she knew how to do all that and manage all that stuff. And I think I, I don't I think that that that office has somewhat started to suffer because because of the overburdening. Right? They're not doing things in some in a timely manner and it really affects services to the town. Selectman Guessferd replied, it's not me you have to convince. Chairperson Roy replied, I know. Oh I know. I know. I know. I know. I know. Selectman Guessferd said because at the 50,000-foot level, a lot of people are going to, you know, so we have to sell it. We have we have to say this is what you're getting for this. And this is, you know.

The Town Administrator said \$71 million in taxes comes through that office. That's just the tax burden. They're also responsible to reconcile all the other accounts, as I understand it, that go through there. And typically, somebody who might have the skill set of a clerk nowadays, that's up on all the election and the motor vehicles doesn't necessarily have the financial skills. And we are doing a disservice because we're limping along. We're not, we're not timely and we want to make sure that we're processing things efficiently. And it appears that we've struggled with that recently. And because of the scope and the size of our community, we are not Litchfield, we are not Mayberry RFD, we are Hudson, the ninth largest community in the state. Again, if you do a survey and we've looked, Merrimack is the only other one. Everybody else is separate. The Chair said I think those inefficiencies, equal dollars that we're wasting, we're you know. Selectman Gagnon said we just got to prove it. I guess that's his point. Right? Selectman Guessferd said what are you getting? What are we not get what do you not getting now, citizens that you're going to get after this. what they see. Chairperson Roy said I think one of the things that that happened last year is probably a perfect example. We would have on time tax bills because there's one person focusing on getting all the stuff to the state that they need so that we can produce all of those things. So you're not getting the holiday tax bill. Right? You're doing it in a more timely manner. You know, because I know that that last year that came up a lot that, you know, here we are at the holidays and they they send this huge bill out to us, you know. You know what I mean? And I understand that I wouldn't want you know, so I think all of those things and I think it is as Mr. Malizia said you know, it is a place where we have to grow with the population. We can't just continue on because there's a breaking point, you know, I'm sure those folks up there, do they do a wonderful job. Right. But there's only so much they can do, right. So without help, which is something we've heard. Selectman Guessferd said and this is one of the recommendations. Chairperson Roy said yeah, you know, more than once during this, you know. And I think that we would be it would be wise for us to do one thing and not all of the recommendations at once. So I think maybe this is a good first step so we can get a basis. Selectman Morin replied cuz at this point in theory, we're up to six positions being asked for.

The Town Administrator then said again, this would be the voters. Voters approving or not approving it. You know, the burden for a lot of this falls on the Finance Department who has to actually work with and produce and do a lot of this work. Frankly, they have enough other work to do because we're a pretty sophisticated operation to start with. As you're all well aware, there's millions of dollars to go through here. You know, the town took the step a few years ago of appointing a treasurer as opposed to electing a treasurer. That way you had some control over the skill sets that you're getting involved with. This is not a simple operation. You think about running our side of the street it's just a \$40 million business on its own, and then all of the taxes come through here, all the bills come out of here, all the lean process, all of the collection of that, all of the all of the research and the follow up that goes on to that, never mind reconciling all the rest of the accounting, the finances that come out of that office. That's really what that does. Chairperson Roy said and like we talked about with the planning office, I think I would guess there are things that should be being done that just aren't because there's just not the capacity to do it, you know. Selectman Morin added, and one of the pluses is it's more of a job interview versus an election, which is, which is much better control. The Town Administrator said you can control that. Chairperson Roy added we can look for a certain skill set like you said.

The Town Administrator went on to say, the more efficiently and the more timely we do all of our reconciliation and collection. You know, you get more in the bank and you maybe get more interest. You know, your because you're more efficient. You know what I'm saying? You're not lagging. We're in a low interest rate now, but it looks like they're going up, you know, So the more efficient we are, it just benefits the public that we're doing all that we can do to best manage the voter's money. Again, this is a proposal. It does not take effect the first year. So it would give time if it passed to set up some specific job description, what kind of qualifications we're looking for. And again, it's difficult when you elect positions that are very sophisticated, that are getting more and more complicated. I think the clerk could then pivot to help more of the Moderators burden. I think if we listen to the Moderator, we need to have some more background back up there. Well, you can only stretch positions so far. And I think by separating them, the clerk can then devote more time to the ever more increasingly complicated election side of the house. We all know that's getting more and more scrutiny. We know it's getting more and more attention. We want to make sure we're doing everything right. And, you know, Mr. Inderbitzen spends a lot of time doing it, but the clerk has a role in it. And obviously, if they had more time, that role could be more beneficial to Mr. Inderbitzen and to the voters at large.

Chairperson Roy said so I guess we can put this in with warrant articles and then. The Town Administrator said, again I brought it in, it could go into the tab book. I would probably put it under the under the K Tab. K as in Special K. I could think of another K word. So again, I just wanted to bring it to your attention. I thought it was we've talked about it and ruminated on it.

Remaining Town Officers

Chairperson Roy said, So I don't know where we want to go next. The Town Administrator explained, so again, as I said, we talked about the Moderator. He's in that section, all the other departments, and they're all fairly minor from the budget position, I believe are all level funded. You can go through them if you'd like, but nothing has changed. They're basically the Supervisors, Sustainability Committee, Benson Park Committee, Budget Committee. They all have level funded budgets.

Selectman Morin asked, did Benson's Committee ask for that \$10,000? The Town Administrator replied, no, they did not. They did not. Chairperson Roy asked, what were they asking for \$10,000 for? Selectman Morin replied, well, last year we added that fund and then they added the \$10,000 because they spent all the money out of it. And I thought they were going to add it. The Town Administrator then said I will qualify my answer, nobody's asked for it. They still have time to ask for it. So if you want to put the bug in their ear, they can ask for it because you can still add warrant articles. Selectman Morin replied, and that's what I thought they were going to do. The Town Administrator replied, they have not yet. My understanding is the Sustainability Committee will probably ask for money into their energy into the fund that they have not yet. Selectman Morin said Benson's Committee had a meeting tonight, so they may have been talking about it. The Town Administrator said perhaps they've done it so. But you still have a pretty generous window of time where you can still add. I mean, we don't want to wait till the last minute, but if they could get it in the next few weeks and you could deliberate and discuss it at one of your upcoming regular meetings. But, no. they have not done it so far.

Supervisors of the Checklist (5025)

Treasurer (5050)

Sustainability Committee (5055)

Benson Park Committee (5063)

Budget Committee (5070)

Ethics Committee (5080)

BOS/Town Buildings (5110, 5115, 5120)

The Town Administrator asked, is everybody clear on all of that? The Chair replied, yup. The Town Administrator then said so I'll probably go to the Selectmen tab, which is 5100. I think it's the next tab in the book. That's your budget, our budget. That's basically for the office, health care and for your elected official salaries and I think the operating budget I decreased slightly. I'm always trying to sharpen the pencil and keep things keep things at least level funded. We're saving some money on deeded property management. That's probably the biggest item. So when we take tax deeded property, sometimes if it's got improvements on it, sometimes you have to spend money to do some things. But we haven't been in that position for couple of months, so I took a risk and cut a couple of bucks out of there. I left some money in there in case we take something along the way. But I think that's a reasonable compromise at this point. With just raw land, you really don't have to do anything. But it's the improved stuff that you might have to have somebody go in and clean something or fix something. Chairperson Roy added, or winterize it or whatever. Anybody have any questions on that?

Selectman Gagnon replied, actually, yeah, line 345 Community Relations. \$27,000. \$32,000. Then down to \$400 bucks. What's that about? The Town Administrator replied, during the pandemic you were generous enough to approve gift certificates for every employee. We had, if I recall, all employees, that came out of our budget. Chairperson Roy agreed. Selectman Gagnon replied, alright. The Chair added, and I think we actually moved that from contingency, if I remember correctly. The Town Administrator replied you might have transferred, but we didn't have that in there. But that's where we expanded it from.

5120 is basically this facility here, pardon me that's Oakwood which is the small building. That's pretty minimus. Selectman Gagnon said I'm looking at 5115-line item 210 Natural Gas for Oakwood Facility. I know we're probably level funded it at \$800, but the last three years have shown \$2000 to \$3000 expense. Do we want to actually adjust that to be reasonable? The Town Administrator replied, so we'll try to save somewhere else and I'll just make sure I can cover it. I'm just trying to keep a level funded. It's such a minimus budget. That's all I really do. Selectman Gagnon replied, I figured that's what you did. All right. Selectman Morin added, and we keep that down to the lowest setting we possibly can anyway. That's not typically occupied, but you've got to keep it from freezing, right?

Town Hall is basically the only increase; I believe is the salary. It's actual operation of the building is pretty level funded. Selectman Gagnon said same thing I ask Chrissy, I mean, does the town thermostats drop down at nighttime or is it? The Town Administrator replied, they're programmable. We have I believe I

think the majority of them are programmable that they set back. We have all the light things and motion sensors as you walk out after I'm sitting in my office, if I'm concentrating 5 minutes later, I'm in the dark. I'm like, I got to wave my arms. Thinks I'm dead. Selectman Gagnon joked, we'll just buy you a little headlamp instead. The Town Administrator laughed saying, no, no, no, come on. But it's funny. The first couple of times it happens to you, you're like, Oh, God, you know? So, yeah, it's just kind of a pain in the neck. But we put that technology in all of all the areas here.

Town Poor (5151)

You can see the trend there the Town Administrator explained, so you can see the trend there. Last year we tried to put it down to \$65,000 but the default restored it to \$80,000. So I'm just proposing the \$65,000 again. One thing, we have an ace in the hole, we have donation account, we folks donate money into the account. So if need be we could draw on that. If for some reason we had some reason to go over this on some catastrophic, catastrophic reason. But our Welfare Officer does an excellent job of working with the area resources so that, you know, we utilize those resources to the best of our ability, where we're not directly spending the money. It comes through some of the community grants. I mean, we fund these other organizations. So she has a very good network to work with, with folks. But we do have a responsibility to be the first line assistance. It's not intended to be, you're going to live off of us, but we're the first step. So if you need a rental assistance payment, a food voucher, a heating, electric. We're that. But then we get you into other programs. Selectman Gagnon said, no plane tickets to Martha's Vineyard. The Town Administrator replied, not that I'm aware of. No. Chairperson Roy added, no. The Town Administrator continued saying, and that's Kathy Wilson. I've said her name, but she does a very good job of managing this. Chairperson Roy said she's always done an excellent job. The Town Administrator said I'm comfortable with the number. And again, if need be, we do have some money in a donation account.

Legal (5200)

The Town Administrator said this is where we pay for the attorney, our general counsel, Attorney Lefevre with Tarbell and Brodich. We also pay for the labor attorney. Attorney Both. So this is slightly down. Though I did increase, I think, by a pretty reasonable 2%, I did adjust Attorney Lefebvre's fee. I mean, I'm not saying he's going to adjust his fee, but I just put in a cost of living. He's never raised his fee in the seven or eight years he serviced us. Chairperson Roy said you don't even know how amazing that is. The Town Administrator replied, I just think that at some point he's got to do something. So it's a modest 2% there. But I'm able to drop the.... Chairperson Roy I know. Trust me, I know. The Town Administrator said I'm able to drop the collective bargaining slightly because I anticipate one labor contract next year. We're negotiating two this year. Next year will be the one. It'll be the firefighters. So I don't anticipate, you know, using as many dollars to do that negotiation. So that's why the budget is slightly down.

Chairperson Roy said and I think we'd be hard pressed to find anybody else to do it for that, for that amount of money. Selectman Guessferd said I agree. The Town Administrator added, I don't see that anywhere. So that's I think the next tab is the finance director's tab Finance Department.

Finance (5310, 5320)

Finance Director, Lisa Labrie said, overall we're down 6.8%. Mostly in the insurance. It's up slightly in the operating because of the audit. Every other year we have to pay \$4,000. This is the other year. Any questions on that one?

The Town Administrator then explained, OPEB is post employee benefits. That's a requirement that we have from Gasby to cost out the potential future cost of retirement benefits. Everything has an acronym, so OPEB is the acronym for that, but it's basically post-employment benefits that we have to account for.

5320 is up slightly across. The cost of paper. We're looking to hopefully replace our small copier that we have downstairs for 1 to 2 copies. It's kind of limping along on its last leg. I increased postage a little bit. Chairperson Roy said so can I ask a question. It's the part time salary. So you have you have an actual '22 and then you didn't do anything in 23...you don't have anything budgeted for '23. The Town Administrator said we did the default, took it out. As you recall, you all authorized hiring, backfilling/filling a position that's part time in the Finance Office. You did it, which is fine. Your purview. We did it. We budgeted it last year, but because it wasn't in the default budget, that's why it shows up zero. The Town Administrator said we're putting it in again, hopefully the budget passes. The Finance Director added, we

were able to cover it with my predecessor, some of my predecessor's salary. The Town Administrator said this is one of those trickle things when you get a default budget, particularly if you get a couple of years of default budgets, you just start losing this, hopefully this year we get a budget.

Insurance (5910)

So now if we go take the trip all the way to the back part of the book where it says Other Expenses/Non Departmental 5900. The first step is insurance. This is the property liability insurance and this is the worker's comp insurance. So we are locked into a rate assurance plan with both provided through Primex. They do a worker's comp policy; they do a property liability policy. It's locked in with Primex, it's based on a couple of factors the size of our payroll and experience rate. Wow we do, relatively speaking, the premiums have been fairly stable, but like anything else, things have risen because we've come out of the pandemic. So this is in the default budget because it's actually a legal obligation that we can make a specific decision to put this in the default budget. So whilst there is an increase, it's covered by the default budget and I would never want to go without insurance. And I don't think you cannot legally. You definitely can't legally go without worker's comp. You have to have it.

Community Grants (5920)

So the next one is Community Grants, which on this document we see it's level funded. But you go to the that page right there on the page 5, we get a lot of requests. Certainly everybody wants more money but typically we've level funded it. But the one I want to bring your attention to it, just because it just makes me, I'll say concerned, is the Nashua Transit. That's the service that picks up folks that either have disabilities or going to adult type programs. If you can see there, they ask for \$28,480, but level funding would take it to \$16,000. My concern is that when we get to the \$16,000, they're going to stop. And that concerns me because I know there's people that are dependent on this. And usually it's the more vulnerable in our population. That's that's vulnerable. Chairperson Roy said, and that's the one that picks people up and takes them to doctor's appointments or those kinds of things? The Town Administrator replied, yes. We have no control over this because we are the client.

We're the client of Nashua Transit, it appears and I'll just pass up this document. I hate to do things at the last second, but, you know, this is their, this was the submission they sent to us. If you look at that and I'm looking, you see there's three options there. I'm looking at the most conservative option, which is like the 500-hour option. Right now we're about 450 hours somewhere in that ballpark at a cost this year of about \$16- something, it's going to go to \$28-something. And my concern is that if we don't take some sort of action on this, we're going to get to February and they're going to go, whoop, you're done, and we're going to have a bunch of vulnerable people who've become dependent on this transportation for either doctors, rehabilitation, adult day programs. So I, I just bring it to your attention. I'm loathe to recommend that you take it from all the other agencies because we use the Food Pantry, we use the Front Door Agency, we use the Soup Kitchen we use and send folks to these agencies. So it's something that I believe the numbers about \$12,341 delta. I'm just concerned that if you don't fund it.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said so I was just... I'm not going to comment on this at all because I use Nashua Transit. Chairperson Roy said so, can I ask, do you think it would be prudent, prudent if we say to a little bit of money out of, say, our contingency budget? The Town Administrator replied, that's always an option. So when we get to that point, if assuming we will, you could, we could up with the contingency for money which we budget \$100,000 of contingency. Chairperson Roy said I thought it was \$75,000. Selectman Gagnon said yeah. \$75,000. You have \$60,000 in the bank in \$75,000 you're asking for. Chairperson Roy said because I certainly wouldn't want to see that service go away. You know, I think you're right. The people that would be affected are the people that can't afford to be affected. The Town Administrator said, I wanted to make sure you were aware of. I don't want to gloss over it. I want to just make sure you have a conversation about it. Again, I don't think we want to rob Peter to pay Paul when it comes to the other agencies. But. We could even use the Town Poor money if we had it left. Chairperson Roy then said right. I think actually what I was suggesting is we could do that. We could wait to see what happens, or we could decrease that contingency fund, by some money and put it in here. The Town Administrator asked, decrease that by 12,500 and put the 12,500 and put the \$12,500 here? Again, I don't want to hurt the vulnerable. I don't want to hurt the people in need.

Selectman McGrath then said, I just want to comment, not about whether you should vote for this or not vote for it. I utilize that service, but I pay for it as well. So it's not you know, it's not. The Town

Administrator said there is a charge, I believe, about \$5.00 dollars? Chairperson Roy said I think that's what it says \$5 rate goes...Selectman McGrath said so, I'm going to Nashua for physical therapy and it's \$5.50 one way, so it's \$11.00 every time. The Town Administrator then said so there is a share from the participants. There is a federal grant that helps cut it down. But this is the number that we are responsible for when all is said and done.

Selectman Gagnon said I'm with you. Selectman Guessferd said I think using some of that contingency money probably makes sense. Chairperson Roy said cuz I'd rather have it guaranteed than have it trying to, God forbid, something happen and then we're trying to figure it out in February instead. The Town Administrator then said so, a *motion would be to transfer money from the Board of Selectmen Contingency account 5940-298, in the amount of \$12,400 to Community Grants, 5920-259 for the Nashua Transit account. This motion was made by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 4-0-1, McGrath abstained.*

Chairperson Roy then said while we're here. I actually and I know that they didn't forward a request, but I'll put it out there to the Board that I suggest that we not donate to Operation Troop Care and split that donation between the VFW and the American Legion, just because I think those organizations can do more for service members overall, they get a bigger bang for their buck. Again, that's my personal opinion, you know. Curious about what everybody else has to say about it. Selectman McGrath replied, I don't have anything to say about it. I just like to know what Troop Care is. Because I've never I've never heard of that. The Town Administrator replied, that's the program, if you recall, former Selectman Luzzey and I believe his family started a very active when they packaging care packages for troops overseas and they do it on a fairly regular basis. So service people in Afghanistan or Iraq, wherever they've been posted, get these care packages, I believe up to a couple of times a year. And so that's our donation, our grant to that program to help fund that so that they can continue to do that. Selectman McGrath asked, and they said that they send the care packages to? The Town Administrator replied, soldiers that are stationed overseas.

Selectman Gagnon then said Madam Chair, can you tell me a little bit about what the VFW and they offer? Chairperson Roy replied, so they offer services for when folks come home. They help them get disability payments they.... So without getting too much into a history of it, the VA, the VA had a service dog program that they discontinued. They've started the VFW has started to pick up the slack on that so that some of the soldiers that suffer from our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines suffer from PTSD and stuff have the opportunity to have a service dog and they have well established processes to do that. That's why I say they get more bang for their buck. They have ins to various organizations, including the Veterans Administration, I know a ton of people that used the VA to help them get disability payments and things like that. And the American Legion is similar to that, where they help, they have different programs and they're established and they have processes in place. Selectman Gagnon replied, and to that, my mother used to work for social services in different ways. She always told me to check some of the what you donate to for what percent of the dollar goes to service versus overhead. Chairperson Roy replied, the overhead for both those organizations are fairly low. If you compare that to something like the Wounded Warrior Project, it's almost nonexistent. You know, they don't really pay salaries and things like that. The other thing that the VFW has, I'm not sure about the American Legion, is they have a lobbying arm that goes. Selectman Guessferd said the American Legion does as well. Chairperson Roy continued saying, yeah. So that they, they help get veteran friendly legislation passed.

Selectman McGrath then said so why couldn't we...we've eliminated. Harbor Homes. That's been eliminated. We've zeroed out... the Town Administrator spoke up saying some of them, Harbor Homes, Keystone Hall, there was a Southern New Hampshire Task Force and Healthy at Home. They all consolidated under something called Harbor Care. So you see, there's zero. They're all under the Harbor Care umbrella. Selectman Guessferd said that's up above. The Town Administrator replied, right, you see the two asterisks and you look at the bottom. Selectman McGrath said well, I do. But I'm also looking at like Lamprey Health, which that's been that's been zeroed out. The Town Administrator replied, correct. Selectman Guessferd said it doesn't look like they've requested anything. The Town Administrator said we haven't. Yeah, they haven't requested we stopped funding them because there hasn't been requests for several, I mean at least this many years.

Selectman McGrath then said Saint Giana's Place, what's that? Selectman Morin said it's right down the street. The Town Administrator added, I think it's women and their young children. Selectman Guessferd said it's a shelter.

Selectman Gagnon said while we're there, the. The Front Door. Any description on that, sir? The Town Administrator replied, that's basically the same equivalent as over here. Only it's a little bit more of a bigger resource. Chairperson Roy said over here, over where? The Town Administrator said over in Nashua. Selectman Gagnon went on to say so it says Nashua Pastoral Care. Chairperson Roy said yeah, what does that mean? The Town Administrator said that's just, I think, that's the name they're registered under but they call themselves, the Front Door Agency. They used to formerly be the Nashua Pastoral Care. What they basically do is also take in folks that have transitional housing needs could be a domestic situation. Kathy Wilson utilizes them for placement. They have beds, they have.... that's one of the resources we place people at. Selectman Gagnon then said so I would be I would be incorrect in thinking pastoral is related to a pastor or anything religious. The Town Administrator replied, they've pivoted and gotten away from that. But that was some people knew them as that. That's why we kind of kept the descriptive. They are the Front Door Agency. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay, Thank you.

Selectman Morin asked, so are you looking for motion to add money or what do you want to do? Chairperson Roy asked, do we want to add money or do we want to reallocate? Selectman Guessferd said instead of going Operation Troop Care, that same money \$1,000 to the Legion, \$1,000 to the VFW. Selectman Morin made this motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Selectman McGrath then said what about the Troop Care? Can we at least give them something? Because it seems to me that they've been depending on that to send items to the troops. Chairperson Roy said well I mean do we want; do we want to increase that budget to accommodate that? And I'm truly just asking? Selectman Guessferd said maybe give them \$1,000? Selectman McGrath replied, yeah. I mean I think that we should, they've been depending on us and, and sending I mean I know that I haven't participated in it, but I know that they've sent care packages to the troops. And I think that I think we should do that. Chairperson Roy replied, okay, I mean, I'm not a I'm not opposed to that. The Town Administrator replied, you're talking relatively modest dollars that will have no discernible input to the tax rate. You're talking \$2,000. Chairperson Roy asked, so in that case, do we want to add the Legion and the VFW and then leave? Selectman Morin rescinded his motion. Selectman Morin made a motion to add \$2,000 to the Community Grants budget 5920-259 with \$1,000 going to the Hudson VFW and \$1,000 going to the Hudson American Legion. This was seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Carried 5-0.

Patriotic Purposes (5930)

The Town Administrator explained, Patriotic Purposes. It's level funded. We give a stipend to the Home days towards the fireworks at home days. And when they do a Memorial Day parade. We help offset some of those expenses that I think the Legion incurs. Level funded. You can tell the pandemic has nothing happened. Chairperson Roy said, oh, right. I think we ended up moving that and doing something else with it. If I remember correctly, at some point. There was a lot going on. The Town Administrator replied, we didn't do it.

Other Expenses (5940)

Other Expenses - 5940 is basically the catchall. That's where the contingency was, which you've already just reduced. Everything else is level funded. We do include money here for if we get into a situation where we need to have extra money for accrued time pay outs, that's when employees leave, retire. Some of the larger numbers we aren't able to cover that. So again, unchanged level funded actually this line will go down there for the money you transfer to Nashua Transit.

Hydrant Rental (5960)

Hydrant Rental - that's the cost that we pay to the Water Utility for the fire hydrant system to keep it charged and in good working order. Selectman Morin said, that kills me. It goes from one pot of money to another pot of money. It kills me. I get it. I get. The Town Administrator said I'd give you the whole history but I doubt you'll want it at 9:38p.m. Selectman Morin replied, right, I get it. Selectman Guessferd said makes the brain hurt.

The Town Administrator then said, so I think that's it for all of that. Chairperson Roy said, yeah we did solid waste the other night. The Town Administrator went on to explain, so looking forward, if you'd like, I would presume it's up to you. You still have whatever you want to do with out of the budget requests. I anticipate having the default budget next Tuesday, so we can take a look at that just so you know where you're at. I will say that it's much closer to the budget. If you recall two years ago, I think it was \$775,000. Last year it was \$500,000. This year it's under \$300,000. So because we haven't had any budgets, it's just getting leaner and leaner. But hopefully that will, the voters will see that and say, yeah, close enough we'll vote for it, but that'll be a discussion on Tuesday.

We can discuss revenue on Tuesday. Again, that's offsetting revenue or you can look at it tonight if you'd like. It's guite simply put, our estimates of the revenue that we'll use to offset the tax rate, car registrations, the \$600,000 we budget annually to do surplus to reduce the fund balance that's in there. So it's up to you. If you want to do it now, we can do it then. Selectman Morin asked, what's the agenda looking like? The Town Administrator replied, I tried to keep it pretty lean so that you have time to devote to this. Selectman Morin said - SOLD! Chairperson Roy replied, yeah, same. I'm with you. The Town Administrator reiterated, I really tried to keep it. I really tried to, cuz you're having a meeting the following Tuesday so there's a few things that we've got to do. But after that, it's pretty lean. The Chair then said and that, so, but just so I'm clear that Tuesday is going to include the town clerk issue? The Town Administrator replied, that will be in non-public. Yes, it will be. Yes. So I anticipate we'll have a recommendation for the clerk position on Tuesday. We have, again, a public hearing from our fire grant. I think we have a couple water related items. Then it will be budget. Chairperson Roy replied, more budget? No way! The Town Administrator then said just to point out the budget books are due to the Budget Committee by next Friday. So I'm just pointing that out, not to put pressure on everybody. But we do need to be done with the budget part Tuesday. Warrant articles can still come in because that's different. So I just want to point that out. But I believe we should have sufficient time on Tuesday. We're not loading up again, the agenda. Selectman Morin joked saying, quick, before he things of something else, I make a motion to adjourn.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Guessferd, to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

Kara Roy, Chairperson

Bob Guessferd, Vice-Chairman

Dave Morin, Selectman

Marilyn McGrath, Selectman

Brett Gagnon, Selectman

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the October 25, 2022 Meeting

- 1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> by Chairperson Roy the meeting of October 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall
- 2. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u> led by DPW Director, Jess Forrence
- 3. <u>ATTENDANCE</u>

Board of Selectmen: Brett Gagnon, Bob Guessferd, Marilyn McGrath, Dave Morin, Kara Roy

<u>Staff/Others</u>: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Scott Tice, Fire Chief; Tad Dionne, Police Chief; Jess Forrence, DPW Director; Lisa Labrie, Finance Director; Gary Gasdia School Board Representative; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

- 4. PUBLIC INPUT
- 5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS
 - A. Appointments

Zoning Board of Adjustment (1-member term to expire 12/31/23, 1 alternate member term to expire 12/31/22)

Norm Martin (alternate member applying for full member seat) Rich Weissgarber (new applicant) Tristan Dion (new applicant)

Chairperson Roy explained we had three interviews for one full term, full member term to expire 12/31/23 and one alternate member term to expire 12/31/22 for the Zoning Board of Adjustment. The three nominees are Norm Martin, Rich Weissgarber and Tristan Dion. Do I have a motion to appoint anyone as member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment with a term to expire 12/31/23?

<u>Selectman McGrath made a motion to appoint Norm Martin to the full member.</u> Seeing no second, the Chair said, there's no second, motion fails.

Do I have another motion? <u>Selectman Gagnon said I think I move to appoint Tristan Dion for the full</u> <u>time member. Selectman Guessferd seconded this motion.</u> Chairperson Roy asked for any discussion. Selectman Gagnon then said, so, Madam Chair, like. Like always, I take these pretty pretty honestly and think about who is best for the position. I took a couple of notes here. I said, you know, I've known Norm for a little while in politics. He's a good guy. He means well. He tries hard. He has passion. I appreciate that. He has a lot of experience that can't be ignored. He has a good heart. Certainly means well. And I said he does represent how the town used to be. And keeping with the older ways of thought is my interpretation. Same with Rich. Rich, he has said he goes above and beyond and he tries to learn new skills as necessary, which is very honorable. I had a note to myself, sometimes I don't like the way he makes some decisions, but that's that's not a criticism against him. I guess. He's an honest guy. He serves very well. He has some good skills. He's a good lead. And then Tristan, Mr. Tristan I thought came very well as well. You know, he's a new, new individual to town. His background, his professional skills, the passion that he he portrayed in what he got himself involved with, I thought just stood out a little bit more to me. And so I think that's why I'm tilting in his direction tonight. But I'm not I'm not making it up by any means by saying this was easy or a clear cut. Norm, you did certainly stand out to me, and I honestly mean that. You had some good references that came in that I really took to heart. But in my honest opinion, I'm trying to place the best, most qualified individual, and I believe that's Tristan.

Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said yeah, I think I probably, I actually support probably of the three and I probably should have. I missed second in the first motion and it went kind of quick. I do support Mr. Martin. I just want to make sure the Board understands we've received a lot of input, positive for Mr. Martin. Mr. Dion absolutely. Seems like he's gualified, doesn't have a lot of experience with regard to zoning. He does have experience, similar experience, interpreting international laws, things like that. So I, I recognize I think any of these three individuals will probably do, do well. I think there's more of a learning curve with both Mr. Weissgarber and Mr. Dion. So I know it's kind of awkward because, like I said, I probably should have seconded the motion for Mr. Martin at the time. And and again, understanding that the people in our town do come forward and take the time to write us letters, to do things and support certain certain candidates. We need to listen to that. And that's, you know, so I probably will not be voting for Mr. Dion. I just want to make sure... it's not because he's not qualified, it's because I just believe that the experience that Mr. Martin brings, we haven't heard anything negative about him. I remember a year ago when I came onto the Board, there was some negativity surrounding. And I think that's that's seems to be a bit in the past. I think there's been some some changes in behavior and things like that. So again, kind of a strange situation, but I just I'm not going to support the motion for Mr. Dion. Selectman Morin asked, who first and seconded it? Chairperson Roy said, Mr. Gagnon made the motion, Mr. Guessferd seconded. Selectman Guessferd said I seconded for discussion. Selectman Morin asked, do you want to rescind your second? To which Selectman Guessferd replied, yeah, I'll rescind my second. I was going to just second for discussion.

Selectman Morin said then we can take that up afterwards.

Chairperson Roy said, so, all right, so now I have a motion and no second. Does anybody want a second? Mr. Dion's? Selectman Morin made a motion to appoint Mr. Martin to the full time member. This was seconded by Selectman McGrath. Chairperson Roy asked, any more discussion? To which Selectman Guessferd said there's something else I think I wanted to mention. So Mr. Martin has, like I said, he's served on the Board...oh, it was actually more of a question. What is his current? Chairperson Roy said he's an alternate member of the alternate member of the ZBA. Selectman Guessferd asked, but what is his expiration date on this current assignment? Mr. Martin, in the audience, said this December. Chairperson Roy asked of 2022? To which Mr. Martin replied yes. Selectman Guessferd said okay. That was really all I wanted to mention there.

Chairperson Roy then said I will not support Mr. Martin. My position hasn't changed that. I think that both Mr. Martin and Mr. Weissgarber showed an inability to apply laws and regulations to to situations on the ground. So I won't, I won't support him. I also see an opportunity here for us to....so it struck me not too long ago that we seem to pull from the same folks all the time. It's the same volunteers all the time that volunteer for everything. And I think we have an opportunity, whether it's as a full member or an alternate member, to have some some new some new folks in here, come into the fold so that they so that they can grow with the town, they can they can give that perspective. I think it's sometimes it's a perspective we we miss. Right. Particularly somebody like Mr. Tristan, who's starting a new family and doing those kinds of things. So that's where I stand. So does anybody else have any discussion?

Selectman McGrath then said well, I'll speak on behalf of Mr. Martin. He served for a number of years without any complaints or criticisms. And he made one silly comment that he shouldn't have made, that people took offense to. But if they had realized that the Zoning Board, with the exception I think, of Mr. Martin, who is there as an alternate. Mr....the current chairman of the Board. And I can't...The Town Administrator said Mr. Daddario. Selectman McGrath said all I could think of is Gary, because that's my brother's name. And anyway, and I think pretty much the rest of the Board are fairly new

members. The Town Administrator said Mr. Pacochia has been there for a long time. Selectman McGrath said Mr. Oh, he's been. Yeah, he's, he's been there for, for a long time. But like Mr. Sakati who wrote a letter recommending Mr. Martin be appointed, he's a relatively new member. The other gentleman from that neighborhood, he's a new member on the on the Zoning Board. The person that you just appointed a month or so ago who hasn't served on the Zoning Board, and he's a real estate person. He's new. And now you're going to be putting on, I expect, Mr. Dion, who's going to be a new member. He hasn't seen a meeting. He hasn't watched a meeting. He hasn't attended. Chairperson Roy said well that's just not true. No, he said he watched the meetings on on TV. Selectman McGrath replied, no, he didn't say that. Chairperson Roy replied, he did. Selectman McGrath responded saying he said he wasn't to. Chairperson Roy replied, go on. Go on. He watched meetings. He didn't attend, but he watched them. But go on. Selectman McGrath said in any event. And, so most of the people that are on that Board, with the exception of maybe three, are new members. So it's we've got new people. Some of the. Mr. Etienne also is a member of that Board until December. And they're making decisions that their inexperience is showing. And so one of the cases that that they just voted on not to... not too long ago, we've got a lawsuit against the town because they were inconsistent in their rulings. They make.... I mean, so and this is a very serious board and it needs experienced people. It doesn't mean that they should all be experienced, but the majority of them should be so that they could guide the newer members in in what their positions are and what they should be doing. And that's my opinion.

Chairperson Roy said I just I just want to clarify that my opposition to Mr. Martin isn't because of some comment he made a year ago. It is because he demonstrated an inability to read and understand and RSA and then supported what forced us to file suit against the Budget Committee because, again, he apparently cannot read and apply the law. So that's where I'm coming from.

Selectman Guessferd then said Madam Chair, I understand where you're coming from. And I know we had an extensive discussion about both of those individuals. Mr. Martin and Mr. Weissgarber, in that in that application. Selectman McGrath asked we did? Did we have that as a conversation of the Board. Selectman Morin replied, when we interviewed them? Yes. Selectman Guessferd replied, yeah. Yeah. So we did have that conversation and we did talk about that. And, and I don't disagree that in this particular instance, they certainly, I think they were influenced greatly as well. But at the same time, you know, that one, that one instance I get believe me, I'm the liaison to the Budget Committee and it's been it's been a difficult relationship recently. A couple of things I want to I want to mention I support what you're saying about diversity and let's say diversity, but additional new people on the boards. And I fully support Mr. Dion joining the Board as an alternate. And hopefully he would apply because we're only talking about two months here for the alternate position, it's only going to go until December. So we're going to be seeing this again. But I'd like to see somebody who's who doesn't have experience with the Board to if they come on, they come out as an alternate, they learn and then then they can come on, if we if we so appoint them, they'll come on as a as a permanent member or a full member.

Selectman Guessferd went on to say, the only other thing I want to mention is in terms of this was not an easy decision for me. I spent a lot of time thinking about this over the last several weeks, and I was I was all over the map. I was on both sides of this. And then we we continue to get more positive feedback with regard to Mr. Martin. I personally discussed it with, through email, with our Zoning Administrator as well, who provided for me was kind of a very balanced evaluation, I guess I'll say, of Mr. Martin. But in the end, I believe that that he supports him being on the Board. So this wasn't something that I took lightly or that I'm just making a knee jerk reaction to or, or reacting to something that's happened in the year ago or, or more recently. And like I said, this was a very difficult decision for me. But in the end, I think what would tip the scale was the support that he had. And I can't I can't ignore that, the support that he had. I think he had three or four different folks that that emailed us supporting him. So that was that was an important factor for me. So it's a mixed bag. I'm not sure it's a, it's a 100% optimal, but I'd like to see him continuing, based on that and a permanent or again, as a full member. Chairperson Roy asked, any more discussion? Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said yeah, I don't want to drag us on too much. This is interesting. I do actually agree with some of the things that you said, Selectman McGrath. You know, I think a good mix of young and a good mix of more senior with knowledge is good. I took it to heart. I like that thought process. I am with the Chairman as well. You know, I am concerned that an RSA that was seemingly pretty easy to read was misinterpreted. I think that was a major, major miss. But I'd like to think that with Mr. Martin's passion and awareness, if you're surrounded by other good people on that Board, I think if you're in the right group, you may you may rise above that and serve serve in a better capacity. And for the sake of of agreeing with my fellow colleagues here and being a little less contentious, I think I probably could support Norm Martin full of full member if we generally agree to put Tristan Dion as the alternate member so that he could get that experience and start his volunteering experience in the town, because I think we need to welcome him into some kind of position because he's he's got a good background that we shouldn't let go.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said let me clarify what you just said. So we're going to vote for Martin as long as we get your guy. Is that what you just said? Selectman Gagnon replied, well, I guess technically speaking, yeah, I that's I say I like Martin for the full time member. After listening to all of your input. Selectman Morin replied, I just didn't know we negotiated things now for votes. Selectman Gagnon replied, well, that's just my thought process. I figured. Selectman Morin replied, just wanted to get that out there. We'll bid for people. Gotcha. Selectman Gagnon replied, I have no problem stating that.

Selectman Morin said I agree with Selectman McGrath and Selectman Gagnon on, it's a very young Board. I also received the same emails that Selectman Guessferd did, and I actually had a discussion on Saturday with a member of the Zoning Committee who had some very good words for Mr. Martin. So I'll vote for Mr. Martin, too. Absolutely. Thank you. Selectman Guessferd said and one of the things I'll just make a final comment here, given that there is concern and it's not without merit, about ability to interpret laws, and I think there was also some concern about making sure that we're addressing updating updated ZBA ordinances and standards, which was I think is an area that we have to make sure. This expires a year from now, a year and two months. I know myself and I know you sit on the zoning board yourself. I will be certainly looking closely at the things that are going on. And when this position comes back up for reappointment, I'll certainly be taking what happens in the next year into account and making a decision to continue with Mr. Martin when he comes up for, if he does decide to, to to apply again. So, you know, I think we need to look at all of them that way, actually. And we're entering in a very key part key we're getting a key piece of our town's history here. There's a lot of things that are that are up for, thought process, understanding where we're going in the future. And the ZBA is a big part of it. Like you said, it's a serious board, ZBA, Planning Board, they're serious boards, so we need to be paying attention. We need to be seeing what's going on and hopefully be able to provide some guidance as well.

Chairperson Roy then said, I will say that not without reservation, but I may have been swayed as to Mr. Martin, in the fact that it is a year and two months and we can look at it again and can see where it goes Sitting on the Board, I'll just comment that I think that the Board does do a good job. They do take it seriously. They do look at things in a reasonable and I guess logical fashion. The case that you speak of was probably bound to be end up in court anyways. So you know, you can have your thoughts about why that happened. But I think the ZBA does a good job of and they to give them their due and I know I know you weren't there the last time, but I know I'm guessing you've watched there's been some training that they've taken advantage of from both from our Attorney and from the NHMA. So that being said, does anybody have anything else? All those in favor of appointing Norm Martin to be a full member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment with the term to at 12/31/23. All those in favor say aye. Motion passes. Selectman McGrath asked unanimously? To which Chairperson Roy replied, yes. Selectman McGrath replied, just checking. You said you weren't going to vote and you changed. Chairperson Roy asked, did you hear? Selectman McGrath replied, no I heard, I just heard you but I didn't hear you vote.

Chairperson Roy continued on asking is there a *motion to appoint an alternate of the Zoning Board of* <u>Adjustment with a term to expire 12/31/22? Selectman Guessferd made this motion and it was</u> <u>seconded by Selectman Gagnon</u>. Chairperson Roy asked if there was any discussion. Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I'm not going to be voting in favor of this motion. Chairperson Roy called for the vote. <u>Vote carried 4-1, Selectman McGrath opposed</u>.

6. <u>CONSENT ITEMS</u>

Chairperson Roy asked, does anyone have anything they'd like removed for separate consideration? Seeing nothing, <u>Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to accept</u> <u>Consent Items A, B, C, D, E & F. Carried 5-0</u>.

- A. <u>Assessing Items</u> none
- B. <u>Water/Sewer Items</u> none
- C. <u>Licenses & Permits & Policies</u>
 - 1) Raffle Permit Knights of Columbus Council 5162 Hudson
 - 2) Outdoor Gathering Permit Mill Cities Alliance
- D. <u>Donations</u>
 - 1) Donation of \$2,500 from Digital Federal Credit Union to the Police Department
 - 2) Donation of a tree, valued at \$276.75 for Library Park from the Lions Club
- E. <u>Acceptance of Minutes</u>
 - 1) Minutes of October 4, 2022
 - 2) Minutes of October 11, 2022
- F. <u>Calendar</u>
 - 10/26 7:00 Planning Board Buxton Meeting Room
 - 10/27 7:00 Zoning Board of Adjustment Buxton Meeting Room
 - 10/31 Halloween Trick or Treat 6:00-8:00pm
 - 11/01 7:00 Board of Selectmen BOS Meeting Room
 - 11/02 7:00 Budget Committee Town Budget Review Buxton Meeting Room
 - 11/07 7:00 Budget Committee Town Budget Review Buxton Meeting Room
 - 11/08 7:00am-8pm General Election www.hudsonnh.gov/clerk for more info
 - 11/10 7:00 Budget Committee Town Budget Review Buxton Meeting Room

7. <u>OLD BUSINESS</u>

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on October 11, 2022

1.) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to retain the services of former Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Roger Ordway, for the period of October 17, 2022 through December 31, 2022, at the rate of \$30.00 without benefits. Carried 5-0.

2) Selectman Guessferd made a motion to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. This was seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 5-0.

8. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

A. Public Hearing - Acceptance of Homeland Security Grant - HFD

Chairperson Roy recognized Fire Chief Scott Tice who said, Thank you, Madam Chair. Good evening, Board members. So, in December of 2021, Chief Buxton received permission from the Board to apply for the Homeland Security Emergency Management Grant to purchase emergency management equipment consisting of a light tower with an onboard generator, two signboards and a trailer mounted generator. On September 30th of this year, we were notified by the state that we did receive this award. So I'm here tonight for the public hearing and acceptance of the grant in the amount of 137,994 and there's no local match.

Chairperson Roy replied, okay, great. So I will open a public hearing at 7:24 p.m. Is there anyone present who would like to speak on this matter? Seeing none. I will close the public hearing at 7:24 p.m. and I will entertain a motion to authorize the Chief to accept the 2022 Homeland Security Competitive Grant in the amount of \$137,994 as recommended by the Fire Chief. This motion was made by Selectman Guessferd, seconded by Selectman McGrath. Carried 5-0. Chief Tice thanked the Board.

B. Taylor Falls and Veteran's Memorial Bridge Update - Engineering

Chairperson Roy recognized Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Mr. Dhima began by saying Thank you, Chairperson Roy. Good evening, everyone. As you well aware, Tylor Falls and Veterans Memorial Bridge is in need of repair. Town of Hudson and City of Nashua has been working on this project since 2018 to do an evaluation and a design. Those were done through a warrant article and we identified one of the two bridges to be repaired using ARPA funds. We were scheduled to go to bid in December. We were notified this month that this bridge, both bridges, were in the ten-year plan in 2030. I told them that's too late. We were ready to go out. So all of a sudden we got in the first of the line. So the funds will be available as of August of 2023.

With that said, we need to do a couple things to get us the federal funds that we need. So that's why I'm in front of you tonight. Basically, some of the things we need to do is an environmental process permit. It's called NEPA. A couple other things that New Hampshire D.O.T. would like us to go through, similar to the LPA project that we're doing widening is Lowell Road, and it's for the amount of \$30,000 which we're going to be splitting with City of Nashua. And with that said, I'm in front of you tonight to inform you that we have we are getting \$2.5 million, up to \$2.5 million in federal and state money for these twin bridges. And we do need to do a bit of additional work to get access to that.

And with that said, I have two motions in front of you tonight to approve the engineering services and second one, authorize me to wrap up the revised amendment that we need to work the City of Nashua for the additional funds we need to split. That said, I'll take any questions you might have.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said I think just a quick clarification. You lost me slightly on the history of how this proceeded. We used ARPA funds to do the engineering? Mr. Dhima replied, no, warrant article. ARPA funds have not been used yet. So we put aside \$475,000 to do the construction piece. So that has not been utilized. That can go back into the pot of money. Selectman Gagnon asked, when you say pot of money, you mean the ARPA pot of money? To which Mr. Dhima replied, correct. Selectman Gagnon then said because we did talk about ARPA for this. Mr. Dhima replied, correct. And you did put aside \$475,000 for the bridge. But we don't need to do that anymore because federal money is available. Selectman Gagnon replied, that's what I want to clarify.

Chairperson Roy then said can I just clarify? So we've used none of that money. Didn't we do an engineering piece for this? Mr. Dhima replied, for another project, Lowell Road and First Brook. So

we have two projects going on related to bridges. The Twin Bridges, you have not utilized any federal...you have not utilized any ARPA funds for this. Chairperson Roy replied, okay. Mr. Dhima then said the evaluation was done in 2018-19 through the budget under Engineering, and then the actual design was done through raising \$125,000 through a warrant article to do that work. I think. Was it a warrant article? The Town Administrator replied I believe it was, yeah.

Mr. Dhima continued saying so Nashua raised \$125,000. We raised \$125,000 for a total \$250,000. The bids came in. We actually utilized \$80,000 between the two of us out of the \$250,000 and now it's going to \$110,000. So we're still way under half of what the money we raised is. So we're way under budget. But this additional funds are basically going to help us to do the additional steps that the state and the feds want us to do it to get access to these funds. They have a checklist. We're halfway through. We have done the project. We've done the design, which has got to go through like a traffic committee, a budget committee, which is public hearings for certain things, and then the environmental permit, of course. And that's what this fund is of for.

Selectman Gagnon said last follow up question Madam Chair, last I remember to the engineering we were going to do is more of a rehab, right? Taking the deck off. If I speak the right term and kind of relaying down. Is the goal still as simple as the goal is still the same as before? We're not going any further with redesign of the bridge because it's now been on the ten-year plan and funded. Right? It's the same plan. Mr. Dhima replied so the same plan we have the design that the same ones have been submitted to the state and that's what we're going to execute, which is basically removing the asphalt, removing the membrane, assessing the deck, making sure if there's any issues we either replace a portion of it or patch a portion of it. But yeah, we're not envisioning just start taking the deck off, which is a concrete piece is holding the thing together. So there's going to be work associated with a handrail, with a guardrail, with the streetlights. Some of them are kind of a little bit they're not where they're supposed to be, let's put it that way. Things of that sort. There's some work associated with bearings, especially on the Nashua side. There's some issues with how the bridge sits. So we need to look into that a little bit and and that's basically it. So the funds will be available next year. So we're now have to race against the clock to get all these tasks done in six months to make sure that we're in line to go out to bid, get that locked in. And we're probably looking at about a year. We're going to do both bridges. Not at the same time, one at a time, because I still like to work here for a little bit longer. Selectman Guessferd jokingly said we'll be building a river.

Mr. Dhima went on to say, Chairperson Roy the construction piece will be done by Nashua like we discussed in the past. So we are still going to finish up this piece, which is a design similar to the evaluation. But when the construction starts, that portion will be shifted to Nashua. So it's really a 5050 as far as the effort goes from the engineering, because I think they came up in the past. So they'll be taking that over. Everything is being done as far as the bids to match their language. But when we get to that point, the Board of Selectmen will have to sign a new contract or a new agreement with Nashua about the construction piece, which which we have to share. It's just beautiful. It's going to be 80% covered by the state and 20% by the by the municipalities, but that 20% then gets split two ways. So it's really 10% that's going to cost us. So, max, we're looking at \$250,000 each. That money can come out of the bridge rehab program, which the town is going to get access in December, about \$680,000. So I don't foresee using the ARPA funds to even make up the difference for that 10% we need. We're going to be using bridge aid money that's coming in similar to the paving program that you guys have access to recently with Mr. Forrence. So they'll be similar in use, but much bigger amount for \$480,000 versus \$680,000 that we're going to get for bridge. So we're in good shape.

Chairperson Roy then asked, the funding is coming from the state, right? Because I thought you said at some point that it was coming from the federal government, but it's coming from the state. Mr. Dhima replied, the state is going to manage it. But it's my understanding that they're getting money from the feds. It's it's federal money. Chairperson Roy replied, right but we're getting it from the state? Mr. Dhima replied, we're getting it from the state. Yes. And the state is going to manage it similar to the LPA project. So they're going to be a project manager assigned to it. We're going to be working with them. They get access there. They give it to us. We do the reimbursement. Yeah, the state will be managing it. Yes.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said if nobody's got any other questions I just got a question on the motion. We have two sets of twin bridges, should we say Veterans or Bridge and Taylor Falls Bridge. You have twin bridges in the motion. Mr. Dhima replied yes. Selectman Morin then said cuz you have the Sagamore. Those are twin bridges too. Mr. Dhima said do we have? Which is the other twin bridges? Selectman Morin replied Sagamore Bridge. There's two. Mr. Dhima replied oh that's right. I never think of that because those are not ours.... Selectman Morin said the state would come in and fix those instead of these. Mr. Dhima said I feel like those are not ours. Those are federal like the turnpike. But I totally understand. so yes, whatever works for the Board. Chairperson Roy said so it's Taylor Falls and the Town Administrator and Selectman Morin replied and Veterans.

Selectman Guessferd said so just to clarify. Yeah, we did or didn't set aside any ARPA money for this? Chairperson Roy replied we did. The Town Administrator added we're not going to need to. Selectman Guessferd then said so we can use that money for something else? To which Chairperson Roy replied yes and Selectman Morin said after we're all done I was going to ask if we could either put it on the agenda or talk about it now to get that group going again. The Town Administrator said we'll talk about that next meeting. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah it's going to be a much more robust discussion. But the there was an update. I had requested to be on the next agenda. Yeah, we can talk. Talk about what our next steps are for that money now. So anything else?

Selectman Morin said I don't my glasses so I can't read. <u>Selectman Gagnon made a motion,</u> seconded by Selectman McGrath to award the revised contract for the Taylor Falls and Veterans <u>Bridges Engineering Service to Dubois and King Inc. in the not to exceed amount of \$110,291.00</u> with Hudson's 50% of the share of the cost not to exceed \$55,145.50 from the 5585-225 Engineers services account as recommended by the Town Engineer. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to authorize the Town Engineer to work with the City of Nashua to update the 2020 Municipality Agreement. Carried 5-0.

C. Pennichuck Water Wholesale Water Supply Contract - Engineering

Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima was again recognized and said Thank you, Madam Chair. As you're well aware, we've been dealing with the PFAS issues at one of the two wells, which we had to shut down in June 2021. We've been purchasing water from Penicuik to make up the difference. I got Mr. Malizia to start working with Pennichuck to see what a better ways is. If we're going to be doing this for the short term until we figure out what we need to do with the wells. So that triggered basically a discussion with Pennichuck about a better contract for us and them now that we be purchasing more water for them year round. So with that, I think we came in front of you not too long ago to get the ball rolling and this board approved that. We're back again because PUC finally, PUC staff, Pennichuck, and us finally came up to a final agreement. There were some minor changes here and there, but the biggest thing is the Town is getting approximately \$225,000 credit for all the water we've been purchasing from June 30, 2021 to present, which is going to be applied to the rates that we're going to get approved. So that's a big win for the town. There was a lot of back and forth pushbacks. I, I was surprised. But long story short, we got that through. This is ready for prime time. We felt it was enough to come back and get a final blessing from the Board before we execute this at the PUC level. And that's what this is tonight. Basically getting the final green light from the Board to move forward.

Chairperson Roy asked, any questions? Selectman Gagnon said quick question, sir. I had a question for a resident. Can you just briefly explain this is not going to affect their rates, the water rates? Is it?

Mr. Dhima replied, you can thank Mr. Malizia for that. The Town Administrator replied, it's actually better for the water rate because it's a cheaper cost for us to purchase it. Selectman Gagnon asked than to pump it ourselves? The Town Administrator replied, we don't have the capacity to pump ourselves because one of our wells is shut down. So what we were doing was buying water from Pennichuck under an old agreement. We've negotiated this agreement at a much lower unit price. So every little savings we get, we make sure we hold on to so that we can hold our rate as it is right now. Selectman Gagnon replied, excellent. Good to hear. Mr. Dhima then said so the difference between the old contract that we have and the new one that's going to be executed, we're talking about just under \$1,000,000 in savings. That's what we're talking about. So if we left the old contract in place and executed that for what we're buying, it will be additional million-dollar cost. But if we...The Town Administrator said because we're guaranteeing to purchase a certain amount of money, they can enter into this type of agreement per the PUC. They have these agreements with, I think, Anheuser-Busch, for example. I think there's another location, maybe Milford. They guarantee that they're going to buy X amount of water. They can then enter into the special contract that that because PUC doesn't want the Nashua customers to be harmed. In other words, they can just give us a discount. But because it's a guarantee, it works out beneficially for both sides. Selectman Gagnon replied, thank you. All right.

Seeing no further discussion <u>Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon</u> to approve the latest Wholesale Water Supply Contract as recommended by the Town Administrator and the Town Engineer. Carried 5-0.

D. Hudson Water Utility Operation & Maintenance Contract - Water

Town Engineer Elvis Dhima was recognized by Chairperson Roy and said, so believe it or not, we're getting close to five years having Whitewater work in town. Time flies when you have fun. Per our contract, we need to notify them six months prior to the license, I mean prior to the contract expiring, to which way we need to go. So that's why we're in front of tonight. I need to provide them with an answer by the end of December to, you know, if we're going to go out to bid or not. We looked at everything. The rates are not going to change. We're looking at an escalation between 2-5% similar to the regional contract. There's some benefits of not going out and having this locked in, especially this year when the inflation was 9% and they could not hit us more than 5% because there was a ceiling set on that. So looking at all the pieces that we have in front of us, we believe that we best serve the town by continuing with a five-year extension on the current contract we have in place. Because the rates, the labor, the fuel, the equipment and everything else is still locked in from 2018. They have their annual rates based on the inflation, but that hasn't been less than two and no more than five. So I think we're still in a good place. I think if you go out, we're going to have to have some numbers we're not going to be able to deal with. That said, I'll take any questions you might have. Seeing no questions from the Board, Selectman McGrath made a motion. seconded by Selectman Gagnon to extend the Water Utility Operation and Maintenance Contract to Whitewater, Inc. by five years as recommended by the Town Engineer. Carried 5-0.

Conservation Project Update

Selectman Morin was recognized and said if I may change the order of business a little bit. We had a Conservation Committee meeting the other night we had a discussion in reference to Merrill Park, where Elvis is here. Can he give you an update on that? Chairperson Roy replied, sure. Mr. Dhima said Merrill Park. Selectman Morin said we talked about what you got to do with the state and what's coming moving forward. Mr. Dhima asked are we talking about the boat ramp? Selectman Morin replied, yes, yes. the repair. Mr. Dhima replied, the repair?! I'm sorry. I apologize. Yes. So too many

balls in the air. So, as you well aware, Con Comm. put a \$10,000 towards this project, had to do with rehabbing the existing boat ramp access path to the to the to the river. And we filed with the state. We got some feedback as far as the alteration of terrain permit goes before we do any work. We submitted the second round, so we're hoping to get the permit. The original amount was \$400. Now as I close to \$900, so they got to eat too, I guess, which is okay. We have a contract ready to be executed as far as tree clearing, which is about a, the design we have in place requires about nine or ten trees. We're going to have additional public hearings about this as we get close to construction, but I'm hoping to have the permit by the end of this year and cut the trees this year as well. We will not remove the stumps. This can be done the following year. There's also some discussions about Brox doing some work at their site related to wetland, and part of the project that they're working on is providing or completing projects in town that they can get credit for related to wetlands. So we're looking at a mechanism to see if Brox will help us out, fund the construction piece of this project if possible, or help with the actual material or whatever for that project. Once the permit fee is done. That back up obviously is DPW. I'm sure Mr. Forrence would love to have someone else do that instead of them because they've got plenty to do, but we'll have to see. So that's kind of where we at. We're hoping to get the permit by the end of the year and I'll provide an update to the Conservation. Obviously the Board of Selectmen as well. But once we get that done, I'm hoping to cut the trees this year as well. And then next year, depending on Public Works or how these other pieces work out, we'll try to get that done next year. That's where we at.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said just really simple. You use the term boat ramp, but if I'm correct, it's more of a walk down kayaking ramp. Mr. Dhima replied, I keep saying boat ramp because I keep referring to the Fire Department just walking the boat down there. Not the actual back up into it. It's not. it's really 6 to 8 feet wide. It's a kayak access. It's really when I think of a boat, I don't think like, you know, a motorboat. That's right. I'm thinking more like a you know, for a Fire Department equipment that they can carry. Chairperson Roy said it's a carry in. Mr. Dhima said that's right. That's exactly it. Selectman Gagnon said just so people at home will know. Mr. Dhima replied, yes. There's no yeah, there's none of that. So I'm hoping to get that done.

Mr. Dhima went on to say, now, as you know, there is discussions about what's going on with Hillwood, obviously, and providing funding for a boat ramp at this park. I believe the amount is 1.5 million. I think the Board of Selectmen will have discussed this, depending how that goes, we'll deal with that them. This funding they're talking about, it's a different location. This is an access that one is a full blown out boat launch, as you were referring to earlier. But I don't know where they're at that. We'll have to wait and see how things play out. But there is there is that out there as well. And the spot for that would be Merrill Park.

Chairperson Roy asked okay, so that that put in, has it been redesigned or is it just kind of fixing it and updating it a little bit? Mr. Dhima asked, the one we're working on? To which the Chair replied yes. Mr. Dhima then responded, the one we're working on we simply going to regrade it. We're going to make it a little bit wider than it is right now due to erosion. We're going to make sure there's no erosion damages any further and basically trying to keep it with the same native materials that exist today. And instead of having pressure treated, steps it will be boulders or rocks that can basically not wash away or get damaged. And that's something long term. But as far as the other one, there will be a blown out design. You know, Army Corps of Engineers, all that stuff. So that's kind of where we at with that particular project. Selectman Guessferd asked, we saw a diagram of that before, right? Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. She then asked so anybody else have anything else? Seeing nothing further from the Board Chairperson Roy thanked Mr. Dhima for his update.

E. Proclamation - Small Business Saturday

Chairperson Roy explained, so the next thing on the agenda is a Small Business Saturday proclamation. I think we've done this in the past. I received the email, Mr. Malizia has added the flyer that went with it and the actual proclamation. So, does anybody have anything about that? Seeing no questions from the <u>Board Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by</u> <u>Selectman McGrath to issue a proclamation recognizing. Saturday, November 26, 2022, as Small</u> <u>Business Saturday in Hudson. Carried 5-0.</u>

F. FY24 Budget Wrap Up

Chairperson Roy recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia who said, so, as you are well aware, we spent two evenings, I believe, last week reviewing the Department Head budget submissions. So there are still some items to wrap up. This is a wrap up session. The reason I say that is because the budget books are due to the Budget Committee on Friday this week. So essentially this is your opportunity to finalize the budget. You've got several documents in front of you. I'll just quickly touch base. Budget summary, default budget, outside the budget requests, and warrant articles. So we'll take them in order.

Budget summary is basically a summarization of where you are right now. You made some modest changes the other evening. You transferred some money between contingency and the community grant program. You also added a couple of thousand dollars to the community grant program. So simply put, this is a recalculation taking that into account.

As we stand right now for the operating budget, you're looking at an operating budget, not including more articles of approximately \$4.88 per thousand. So just to give you that parameter, I believe this year the rate was for \$4.70. So just to give you an idea. Chairperson Roy asked, and that's the total tax rate? The Town Administrator replied, that's for the town. We're only speaking about the town's portion right now, which is what you control. So just to put that into perspective. So what I recommend at this point in time is we take a quick look at the revenue. As part of that, I provided you with some revenue sheets because I didn't know who would bring their book and who wouldn't. So this is the revenue estimate. When I say revenue estimate, this is the monies that offset the tax rate. Motor vehicles, all the money we charge for permits that there's fines, recreation programs, all of that, all of those items are in this revenue. Along with the proposed use of \$600,000 worth of our unassigned fund balance to help level the tax rate. That's a number we have been using for several years now. We used it this year. So that's built in or baked into this revenue number and all the numbers that you, that you saw preceding this have this revenue estimate baked into them. So are there any questions on the revenue? I'm here to answer them. If not, I recommend you approve a Revenue number of \$17,273,931. That's the offsetting revenue to offset the tax rate for the town. Selectman McGrath made this motion, which was seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Carried 5-0.

The Town Administrator went on to say because I'm presuming the Water and the Sewer budgets are acceptable to everyone. In other words, there's really no outside the budget request or a no reason to do anything else with those budgets. I'd recommend that you make <u>a motion to forward the Sewer Fund Operating Budget in the amount of \$2,157,003 to the warrant. This motion was made by Selectman Morin and seconded by Selectman McGrath. Carried 5-0.</u>

The Town Administrator then said, and similar for the Water Fund. I recommend that you <u>make a</u> motion to forward the Water Fund Operating Budget in the amount of \$4,526,001 to the warrant. This motion was made by Selectman Morin and seconded by Selectman McGrath. Carried 5-0.

We will touch base on the default budget for the Town, depending on what you do with the outside of the budget request. But if I could draw your eyes to the next set of documents, which is the default budget documents, just so you have a sense of where the default budgets are. So if you look at the first sheet, you see the Fiscal '23 budget for each of the three funds. Each of these funds has a separate warrant article. Therefore, there's a separate default budget calculated. If you look at the second column, where it says FY 2024, that is, that will be, barring any changes on the general fund,

that will be the default budget for the various funds. And if you go to the last column, you see the proposed budget \$33,119,228 for the town. If you see the increase decrease, that is the difference between the default budget and the budget that's proposed that you have in front of you. So to put that into perspective, two years ago when we got our first default budget handed to us, we were about \$775,000 difference.

The Town Administrator went on to say last year we were a \$505,000. Now we're \$275,000. We are getting closer because we haven't had anything for two years. So quite frankly, it stands to reason it's going to shrink. It's going to get closer. So the public, when they go vote or the voters when they vote, they'll see two numbers. They'll see the budget number and then they'll see the default budget number. And should they vote no, they get the default. The reason this may not be final is because you may be taking some actions on the outside the budget requests that I think there were a couple of items I heard that were mandated by law and if you choose to do those, I'm going to put them in the default budget. So we're going to just not talk we're not going to deal with the general fund right now, but we can deal with the water and sewer because you've approved those budgets. So I would recommend that you make <u>a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Sewer Fund Default Budget in the amount of \$2,145,341. Selectman Morin made this motion and Selectman McGrath seconded it. <u>Carried 5-0.</u> The Town Administrator then said I would also recommend you make <u>a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Sever Fund Default Budget in the amount of \$4,517,958. Selectman Guessferd made this motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath. Carried 5-0.</u></u>

FY24 Outside the Budget Requests

Okay, so we've done that. Now we're on the Outside the Budget Requests. So this was the outside the budget requests that had been presented to you during the various budget hearings. This summary was already in your budget book, but for ease and convenience, I've pulled it out. It's basically in order, I think, by department number. And you can see that they total, and these are outside the budget requests, they total \$702,827 in their totality; they'd be \$0.14 on the tax rate. So this is for your discussion, at least start the discussion. What do you want to do?

Selectman Morin was recognized and said I know there are a couple of Department Heads that have been doing some work on their outside the budget request. Do we want to hear from them before we take these up to see if there were changes? Selectman Guessferd replied, absolutely. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. So I know the Fire Chief has worked on. Selectman Morin added and the Public Works has also. Chairperson Roy said so why don't we hear from Public Works first.

Jess Forrence, Public Works Director, came forward and said, thank you. Good evening. You know, with Public Works, the first time I came in, it was trucks, trucks, trucks. We need to do trucks. We need to do trucks with the Board. Asked for me to go back, talk to the other three makers. They said, Yeah, good luck. We're getting the same thing from Ford there and they had that three-day window that they were talking about to go forward. We got some close numbers from them. They aren't guaranteed whether we do it tonight or Budget Committee, whichever way you do, I would like to put the \$90,000 for the first year's payment into the budget or into a warrant article. When/if it's approved, we can go out to bid. This way we're guaranteed to get to the low price, which we're not we're not sure of right now what manufacturer that might be, but that's a concern to us to have it for after July 1st. And that's discussion. Whatever you guys want to do. The part that hurts is we were looking at discussing, we were putting curbing on certain ones from Mountain View and Pasture were use in the street sweeper. Well, it didn't make it all the way the, the bottom part of the conveyor started acting up. We got it back to the shop. Estimated cost on repairing that is \$35,000 and that is this year. That's not July 1st. That's something we'll have to come up with before spring. Before we start street sweeping from all the sand we put down throughout the winter.

The Public Works Director went on to say, sitting with Mr. Malizia, he pulls his glasses down and asked me, where are you going to get the money? And it's like, I don't know. So I came up with a list of things not only to look for July 1st because I know we're going to be in tough shape, but to look at April 1st, what we can do without, what we can stop doing. And there's a list of them here. I'll go

through park maintenance. There was \$28,000 in that for just the maintenance of the parks, mowing them all through there. I can cut that down to \$9,000. We won't fertilize, we won't shrubs, we won't do a lot of those things. Grounds, chemicals and other ones. \$5,000 will cut it down to \$4,000 because we still do have to do some of the treatment. The other one, the grounds landscape in \$7,000 we'd bring it down to \$5,000. That's \$2,000 total of \$19,360. But we want to start that first part of summer, you know, to look to help with the hurt of not only gas and and diesel and salt and all the rest of them that we're going to run into the end of June. So and that'll give a pretty good indication of what the people want come July 1st. March will tell us where we're going if the budget passed, you know, we're kind of happy with everything. But until then, we got to find the money to do this. Everybody says town wide paving. It's going to hurt, town wide paving. You know, we're at a point where we don't want to give up anything. The other option, Bensons bathrooms. close them. That's with Merry Maids and our cost of everything in there is \$12,775. Bring it to \$6,500 and put in four porta potties. Hard life, but that's where it is. The other thing is, you know, goes with it is bathroom supplies. That's \$3,000 a year for the paper goods. So that's what I would like to start. Come April 1st.

Selectman Morin asked, just to clarify, because Chrissy was here the other night, specifically asked if there was no fertilizing for the for the fields. We have a very good rec program she has built up. I'd hate to take that down. That does not include fields? Mr. Forrence replied that does not include ball fields, 9/11 Memorial or the Firemen's Memorial. Selectman Morin then said okay so it includes is town buildings, Library Park, things to that nature? Mr. Forrence replied, correct.

Chairperson Roy asked, so that list, how much total did you just cut? Selectman Guessferd added, from '24 right? From the '24 budget. Chairperson Roy replied, yes. Mr. Forrence replied, \$19,00, \$360, \$6,000 and then \$3,000. I was going to get my calculator but my phone's off. Chairperson Roy said okay, alright. So, so, so let's, let's just back up. So you found 30K that you can cut from your, your budget to support some of your out of budget requests? Mr. Forrence replied, well the big number starts July 1st. You know what I mean? We've already spent most of all that rest of the money. But I will start cutting...Chairperson Roy said okay we're talking about 2024 budget. Yes, this is what we will cut. Chairperson Roy said so you gave us actually a number. I'm not saying it's legitimate of out of legitimate or not, but out of budget requests. That if I did my calculator right total \$388,150. Mr. Forrence replied, no. Selectman Guessferd said the out of budget requests, to which Mr. Forrence replied, oh, I'm sorry. Out of budget, yes, yes. Chairperson Roy went on to say alright, and then the 30K that you just went over would come out of would support some of that some of that? Mr. Forrence replied, going forward.

Chairperson Roy then said what what I think might be a good idea because you have so many of them is that we kind of talk about them a little bit and I get a consensus, I guess, from the Board. For instance, replacement generator. Is that something that we want to entertain as a out of budget request or do we want to? The Town Administrator said so if I may, you started a reserve fund with \$30,000, that's in it right now. Depending, I'm assuming I don't know, there's a warrant out to put another 30K, which could give you 60. The Public Works garage has the oldest generator at this point, so that would be the first one to replace. So I don't see why you couldn't do it out of that fund. That's what the fund is set up for. So if he, if and when he needed to do it, it would come from that fund. So it does not need to go into the budget. Chairperson Roy said that's sort of where I was, but I guess to get a consensus of the Board that we take that out or no? Anybody else have any thoughts on that? Selectman Morin replied, no, cuz that generator's going to die one of these days. We're going to need to make sure we have some money for that. That's all. The Town Administrator added, that's what the capital reserve fund is for. Chairperson Roy replied, right. Selectman Gagnon suggested take it out of the out of budget. Chairperson Roy agreed saying yeah, right. What I'm suggesting is we take it out of the out of budget. The Town Administrator agreed saying you're not adding it to the budget, you're removing it from the list because we'll have money in the fund. Selectman Morin replied, yeah, absolutely. okay.

The Town Administrator said not to jump around too much. But if I'm not mistaken, Mr. Forrence, when Mr. him and Mr. Dhima were talking the storm water VNP that you need to do, I think it says \$20,000 here. That's mandated. Chairperson Roy added as is the contract services for the catch

basin cleaning at \$30,000. I think it was also mandated. The Town Administrator said and for that matter the Robinson Pond design and construction for that part of the storm water permit mandated. Yes. The Town Engineer, who was in the audience, agreed this was correct. The Town Administrator went on to say so basically you have \$105,000 plus another...you have \$125,000. If you were to add those monies to the budget, you're certainly increasing the budget. But they would also increase the default budget, which is why I said defer in doing the default budget. So whether they vote for, whether people vote for the budget or not, it's covered...Selectman Guessferd said it's going, it's going to be in there to be be covered. So let's yeah. The Town Administrator went on to say it will have an impact on the tax rate. I'm not going to kid anybody. It does impact the tax rate but it but from a budget because it's required. Chairperson Roy said because it's required by by either some law or regulation. The Town Administrator replied EPA/DES regulation. So because of that, you can justify putting it in the default budget. Chairperson Roy added because the fines will probably be more than? The Town Administrator replied you will be out of compliance and you'll most likely get fined daily.

Chairperson Roy then said so, so those so those, those three things would get added back, get added into the budget and then also become part of the default budget is that my understanding? The Town Administrator replied, that would be, yes, that would happen. So if I look through the motions, if you wanted to do that, you would <u>motion to move department 5554-221, Public Works equipment rental contract service for catch basing cleaning outside the budget request in the amount of \$30,000 to the FY 24 budget. Selectman Gagnon made this motion and Selectman Morin seconded it. Carried 5-0.</u>

Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman to motion to move to department 5554-406 Public Works drainage construction design to construct storm water VMP's outside the budget request in the amount of \$20,000 to the Fiscal Year 24 budget. Selectman Gagnon made this motion, seconded by Selectman Morin. Carried 5-0.

<u>Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to move department 5585-225</u> <u>Engineering, engineering fees, Robinson Pond design a construction outside the budget request in</u> <u>the amount of \$75,000 to the Fiscal Year 24 budget. Carried 5-0.</u>

Chairperson Roy said okay, so now I guess we get down to some of the more difficult things. I'm not seeing a lot of options as to the increase in the amount, the cost of road salt. I mean, we live in New England, so I don't know how we manage without road salt, you know?

Selectman Morin asked, is the striping mandatory, too? Mr. Forrence replied, the yellow lines are mandatory. The white lines are just you know, it was like driving up 111 when they didn't have it, even though the white lines would have helped at one point. We watch, like I said earlier, because of the budget restrictions and the cost of the paint going up so much. We'll look at streets. Like I said, this year, we didn't tackle Webster Street, the big, long road that would have cost us money. The lines are okay. There's not a lot of traffic on it. Other streets that we added white lines to, we made sure Wason Road was done to look pretty. Did Bush Hill this year because of what it is. But we cut back on a lot of other streets, Melendy Road and stuff like that that we've done in the past that is still in pretty good shape. So we will do that year after year if we have to.

Selectman Morin then said, so my question, who mandates that that they get painted? Mr. Forrence replied, hat is a federal law. It's in the fed manual. Selectman Morin asked can that go in the default budget where it's a mandate? The Town Administrator asked, so it's mandatory? Mr. Forrence replied, it's mandatory that you... there's a mandatory two things. You cut brush on the side of the road so all street signs are visible and you paint yellow lines. Selectman Gagnon said yellow lines? To which Mr. Forrence replied, yellow lines, not white lines. Chairperson Roy said in the middle of the road. Selectman Guessferd then said so the obvious question is how much of that 70K is for yellow lines? Selectman Morin said oh, we can figure it out. Selectman Gagnon said half. Mr. Forrence said

we still, we still have more to do a couple more streets we want to get paved. Selectman Morin replied, right, no but I'm just looking because it's mandatory and we put that in the default budget? Chairperson Roy then asked and then how much of how much of what you're asking for to Mr. Gagnon's point is is the yellow and then how much is the white? Mr. Forrence replied, well, thank you. Chairperson Roy jokingly said, I know making you all do this all this math. Selectman Gagnon said I'm saying half because two yellow lines in the middle, two white lines on the side. Mr. Forrence replied, right. You know, good, good feature on, on, on what we do, but we, you know, jump from street to street. Some needs only one yellow lines in the middle of the road and it's two white lines on either side. Chairperson Roy replied that what his logic was. I don't know what else to say. I could break it down if you wanted something back. Selectman Morin then said well, I'm just trying to see if we can. The Town Administrator said we don't have time. It has to be tonight. So I would think \$35,000 if the Boards, if the Board wants to, you know, put that in and the Board says we believe based on the conversation that's mandated, then we would. Selectman Morin said we could check them. But if we can. The Town Administrator said no, we're going to have to do that tonight.

The Town Administrator then said just to refresh everybody, the default budget is your budget. There are rules or our regulations. You know, you have to be mindful of what you're putting in and what you can and can't put in. The Chairperson said it's mandated. The Town Administrator said if he, if they can point to statute law that says you have to do this, I think you have a good, you have a good argument. Mr. Forrence then said and I think the yellow line falls back on even the police department, where if you don't have a line down the middle of the road and some don't have it, if it's very small or in a neighborhood, anybody can pass anybody. Chairperson Roy said that's a scary thought, to which Mr. Forrence responded, that's a very scary thought. That's why we take care of the big roads the way we do. <u>Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to move Department 5552-262 - Public works line striping, line striping and marking funding outside the budget request in the amount of \$35,000 to the FY 24 budget. Carried 5-0.</u>

Chairperson Roy went on to the next out of budget request. Gasoline. Selectman Morin said we got no choice. The Chair replied, that's what I'm thinking. Selectman Guessferd added, gasoline, diesel and road salt in my mind. The Town Administrator then said, I cannot by law put those in the default budget. Just so you're aware those cannot go in the default budget. The Chair replied, I understand. I think the salt one is a safety issue. And then Mr. Forrence has no control over the price of fuel. Selectman Gagnon spoke up saying just one question on salt actually. Have you ever, can you ask can you even do like bulk buys? The Town Administrator and the Chairperson both replied, he does. Mr. Forrence then added, yeah we get state bid. Actually, we get salt less than Litchfield, the people just over there and a lot of different communities because we use so much. So it is a bulk buy on that way. Selectman Gagnon then said we have a bulk buy for Hudson. Can you join with other towns like power aggregation? Mr. Forrence replied, it is. All the surrounding towns as far out as Portsmouth I believe his jumped on the state bid. The state bid comes in and we all jump on the same thing. So it cost us less in fuel than going to Keene or someplace out there. And that's a factor in the cost, not the cost of the salt. Everybody pays the same pretty much it's the fuel costs that they get it on.

Selectman Guessferd said alright so we need to put those into our budget. The Town Administrator replied so if that's what the Board wishes to do, the first <u>motion would be to move Department 5552-304-Public Works Gasoline Increase from \$2.65 to \$3.08 per gallon outside the budget request in the amount of \$10,750 to the FY 2024 budget. Selectman Gagnon made this motion, seconded by Selectman Morin. Carried 5-0.</u>

The Town Administrator then said the second <u>motion would be to move Department 5552-305-Public</u> <u>Works Diesel Increase from \$2.65 to \$4.21 per gallon, outside the budget request in the amount of</u> <u>\$54,600 to the FY 24 budget. Selectman Gagnon made this motion, seconded by Selectman Morin.</u> <u>Carried 5-0.</u> The Town Administrator then said and <u>a motion to move Department 5552-308 - Public Works Road</u> Salt Increase in per ton price, outside the budget request in the amount of \$118,800 to the FY 24 budget. Selectman Gagnon made this motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Carried 5-0.

Mr. Forrence then addressed the Board saying and if I could just for a second, show you five years ago and six years ago, Halloween day/night, we had those terrible storms. Once we get into Tuesday, I think I'm ahead of the game. So we're looking at it that way. Every day we go through closer to April, we're ahead of the game. So I appreciate that. Thank you.

Chairperson Roy continued with Public Works out of budget requests with Plow Blades. Mr. Forrence said that is what it is. You plow snow, you wear blades out. We've gone to carbon blades to try getting them. The Town Administrator spoke up saying, I would tend to think in a budget as large as ours that in contingency or some other account we could cover the \$8,000, we could cover the \$4,000. I'm not trying to be you know, those are modest amounts that I think you can safely not include. Chairperson Roy replied but we can come up with somewhere? To which the Town Administrator replied, we would have to should the need arise, but don't forget we have contingency money and you know when we have vacancies in positions it always gives us a few extra dollars.

Selectman Morin asked, would that be worthwhile if for some reason we have a lean winter and have money left over to buy those at the end in the spring? So we have them for next year? The Town Administrator replied, yeah, of course. Mr. Forrence replied we try doing that at the end of, oh, I don't know, the last day it's going to snow so we're always.... the Town Administrator jokingly said April 1st. Mr. Forrence said the latest snow I had to plow I think it was April 14th. Chairperson Roy said I remember a mother's day storm so there's that. Mr. Forrence went back to Selectman Morin's question replying, so we do that now. We try keeping everything we keep, try keeping the salt shed full, not knowing the last day we're going to plow snow or treat at least treat the roads.

Chairperson Roy went on to the next out of budget request, sander replacement. The Town Administrator said, same thing. I know it seems like a lot, but that's one of those things that. Mr. Forrence said if we need it, we will find it. Chairperson Roy said okay so you're suggesting we don't put that in the budget? The Town Administrator replied, correct.

At this point Selectman Gagnon spoke up saying, Madam Chair, I mean, I had some notes from our budget meeting about potential cuts, so maybe I bring those up later and say, would we consider these cuts to put that in just for the sake of discussion at a later point. That's what I have in front of me here. Just some notes. The Chair asked, okay for that particular line item? Selectman Gagnon replied, no, just just I looked at everything for this department and thought, okay, if he wants to put most of this in, I had the things I would vote yes for and then the things I would try to save money on to somewhat balance it out. We've done a whole lot of different things tonight, but I still have some things to throw out for discussion to potentially reduce if we want to throw in something like the sander.

The Town Administrator then said, conversely, if Mr. Forrence can make that business decision too, he could do it. In other words, if he needed a sander, he might find something in his tires account that he has to go another six months. Mr. Forrence spoke up saying, with the budget we're in right now is so lean. That if wintertime come, I would look at the fertilizer, the looming and stuff like that to take care of something we really need. So that is something I can do right in house. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. Chairperson Roy asked him okay? To which Selectman Gagnon replied, yeah, for now. I'll bring this up later. The Chair replied, alright, so then we're on to trucks.

Small Equipment - five one-ton trucks. Chairperson Roy said refresh my memory is that sewer and water? The Town Administrator replied we spit it typically between the Public Works general fund and the sewer account and I think drainage. It doesn't all seem to be here because I don't know if you gave me all the numbers, but that's typically what happens. So some of the cost is borne by the sewer because it gets used in the sewer division and that's from the sewer users. But he's talking a pretty good sized number here.

Mr. Forrence said it is. And we all know where vehicles have gone. What hasn't? But the best we have come up with is for the five vehicles for the first year's payment. And we've even kind of got the interest rate locked down to 4.6%. Who knows how long that'll stay, but about \$90,000 for the five trucks for the first year. And that's completely dressed. That's plows, sanders, everything on them. But I can't guarantee that's what the number is going to be. Chairperson Roy replied, so I just I just want to make sure I understand it. So then the town operating budget portion of that would be \$30,000. Is that my understanding? The Town Administrator replied I'm trying to work that out right now. So I believe you do 50% to streets, 25% to drainage, which both of those are in the town budget and 25% to sewer. So let's see \$22,500 goes to sewer. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah, that's what I don't understand because you were talking about \$90,000, but on our sheet it says \$12,000. The Town Administrator said that's what he had originally. I don't know where the other numbers came from. Mr. Forrence then said 'm sorry, what was the number you had? Selectmen Guessferd, Gagnon and the Chair replied, \$12,000. Selectman Guessferd added, that's on there. I don't understand that. Selectman Morin joked, if you can get that we'll give you a raise.

The Town Administrator then explained, so basically of that, if it's \$90,000, of that \$68,500 hits the general fund, \$22,500 hits, the sewer fund. So some of the cost is borne by the sewer. Selectman Guessferd said so it will impact the sewer budget as well. To which the Town Administrator replied it impacts the sewer budget, it will not impact the rate, but we'd have to revisit the sewer number. Chairperson Roy asked, okay, so I guess how much would we have to add? What's the dollar amount? The Town Administrator responded, so you're basically adding \$90,000 of which of which \$45,000 of it goes to 5552-403. Then you're putting \$22,500 in 5554-403 and you're putting \$22,500 into 5562-403. Now they're just splitting it up half a quarter and a quarter. I know that was quick. So sorry. I don't do math well, so...the Town Administrator replied, I just did it in my head. To which the Chair jokingly replied, don't ever ask me to do that. We will not like the results. All right, so what do we want to do? Mr. Forrence jokingly said I'll gladly make a motion to transfer Elvis' money and if the Fire Chief wasn't still here, I'd take his grant money anyway. (the room erupted in laughter).

Selectman Morin asked, can you get away with less? Chairperson Roy added that's sort of what I was thinking. Can you get do, like, three? Mr. Forrence replied, no. You know, and I'm replacing the truck that I drive. When I when I took the position, it was the road agent's old truck. I took it. It needed help. It's plowed its entire life and so forth. Can we go to four? Yes, I could go to four. Reluctantly. Absolutely. I come to the Board I tell them what we need and to make everything so it works. Not only summer, but winter. The Chair said, so my question will be, because I think it's where we need to focus is where will that impact on things like road safety? Mr. Forrence replied, all our one tons have sanders on them. Their task through the snowstorms, because that's everything to us, their task is to do dead ends, to cul-de-sacs, do the big intersections. The big trucks, the six wheelers just keep on going. We have a truck go down, which is very likely it happens another time, whether it's I don't care if it's a fan belt, I don't care if it's a windshield wiper motor. We take one of those trucks off of dead end street or a cul-de-sac, or don't send them to the library right away, and jump on to that plow route to continue plowing while this truck is down. Hopefully, we don't have to tow it back. And hopefully if it's in the middle of the night when we do. So every truck is important to us by far. Every truck is important to us.

The Town Administrator informed the Board, four vehicles is \$72,000. In other words, it's \$18,000 each for payment in the first year, which means \$36,000 would go to our streets, \$18,000 would go to drainage and the other \$18,000 would go to the sewer. So you lessened it somewhat. But that's the split. If you did four. The Chair asked, is that what you want to do? Selectman Guessferd said I say four. I hate to do it. I really do. Mr. Forrence said that means my butt stays in a bumpy old truck for another year. The Town Administrator joked, you're a bumpy old man. We'll give you padding. Selectman Guessferd said you can join my grumpy old man club. The Town Administrator said if the Board wants to do it, that motion would be to move to Department 5552-403 \$36,000, Department 5554-403 \$18,000 into the sewer fund and Department 5562-403 \$18,000. Selectman Morin made this motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Morin jokingly said I know where you can get a silver F-150. Chief Tice laughed and said you might have to remove some decals. Mr. Forrence then said you know, the people. The people we talk to on trucks, a number of them said, Yeah, we have this in stock, but it's red. We have this in stock. We have two coming in it's black. You know, whatever, whatever it is, we have white trucks. But if that was a deterring fact that we would take out a can of spray paint some day and make it white. But I think we'll be okay going forward. Thank you.

Chairperson Roy said okay we're onto the hiring an associate planner. The Town Administrator explained, so I believe you had a discussion about this the other evening. Selectman McGrath interjected saying, I thought it was supposed to be a shared position between Zoning and Planning. The Town Administrator replied so there'll be some synergy or some work together because they are two different disciplines. Brian and Bruce prepared a little memo for everybody. Selectman McGrath replied, oh swell. The Executive Assistant handed out a memo from the Town Planner and Zoning Administrator. Selectman McGrath then said, I think we should have a discussion in public about this, to which the Chairperson asked why? How will we? Selectman McGrath replied, well, I'm just saying that...

Selectman Morin asked, we have what, a total of seven positions? A total of seven positions. Four from fire, one from police, associate, and then depending on the part timer for the zoning administrator. Chairperson Roy replied, because right now that's under contract. The Chair then said to Selectman McGrath so I honestly don't...Selectman McGrath replied, so if you don't want to go into non-public, I'm not going to participate in this discussion because there's a reason why I can't support this. Chairperson Roy replied, well, I guess, how does, how does that fall in in any of our options to go into non-public. Selectman Gagnon said I'll look. The Town Administrator said I'm presuming it would be a reputation of a person. Chairperson Roy asked, so do we, do we want to do that now? Do we want to go into nonpublic now and have this discussion and then reconvene? Selectman McGrath replied well, either that or we can take up the other items and then go back to this. Because if the Police Department is here for something, there's no point in keeping them here to have a and it's not going to be a long discussion, but it could be.

The Town Administrator replied the police doesn't have anything on the outside the budget request. They had a warrant article, which we haven't gotten to yet. Chairperson Roy asked Selectman McGrath o do you want to include in that discussion the the next item on the out of budget request too? The NRPC part time code enforcement assistance? Selectman McGrath replied, yes. Chairperson Roy replied, okay.

So then we'll move on to the transfer station, the scale house design.

Selectman Gagnon then said and Madam Chair, if I may, to give some context this discussion, just to read off some examples to make sure we know are going into nonpublic for: all discussions held and dismissed this, only the following matters can be considered for nonpublic dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or disciplining, an investigation to charges, the hiring of any person as a public employee, matters which discussed would likely affect or adversely affect a reputation. The Town Administrator said that's it. Selectman Gagnon asked, would that one fit? Selectman Guessferd said that's the one right there. Selectman Gagnon then said all right, that's gonna be RSA 91-A:3 II (C). Chairperson Roy thanked Selectman Gagnon to which he replied, you're welcome.

The Chair continued with the out of budget request for the transfer station scale house design. The \$50,000. Town Engineer Elvis Dhima came forward saying I understand the long term. Mr. Dhima said I'm here to take any questions you might have related to this item and so will Jess. Mr. Forrence. He's hiding. Chairperson Roy then said I'm struggling with stuff like this. Like I understand the long term benefit of it. But, but this year, I'm struggling with this one. Somebody convinced me.

Selectman Gagnon said I'm pretty for it right now. Strictly on the matter that it's stepping up in the direction of making revenues which, which is a huge goal. So I guess the question, the only criticism or question I would have is if we didn't get that money this year. You guys are you guys have done a

lot of momentum in upgrading the transfer station. You have some really great ideas that I'm all about, about turning it around, making them more environmentally friendly, making it revenue producing. You don't get this \$50,000 this year, is that drastic going to set you back in the momentum that you've built so far? Mr. Dhima replied, yeah, I mean, there's two pieces to it. You lose a year, obviously. And then the other piece is obviously everything gets more expensive and then the supply chain, I don't know, we don't know which way it's going to go. All we hear that it's getting harder and harder to get things and scales are not any different. So that's my biggest concern. The one thing we know for a fact is that we started this transfer station project at \$550,000 and we know that we ended up at about 800 and \$900,000. So we know that much and that was only a year apart. So that that is the biggest challenge. But I think one thing the group back and maybe put this in the ARPA project list, it is infrastructure related, it is something to that. Selectman Guessferd said we're saving money somewhere else we already know that. Chairperson Roy replied, right, that's what that's what I was just discussing with him.

Mr. Dhima replied, I know I'll be in favor of that. And I know Mr. Forrence will too, but I think that could be a Plan B if the Board chooses to do so. Selectman Guessferd said use that money for that purpose, to which the Chairperson replied, right because we're not going to use that \$475,000 at least. Mr. Dhima replied, at least. Right. Selectman Gagnon said okay. I like that idea. I'm on board. Selectman Morin was recognized and said I just got a question. If we put this engineering and get this plan, it's considered shovel ready, correct? Mr. Dhima replied, correct. Selectman Morin then asked, would that open us up to grants or federal funds to do this project? Mr. Dhima replied yes. That is one of the reasons why the bridge project got the funds moved into the next year because it's considered shovel ready. And that was the town objective. When we started this thing in 2018. We didn't want to pay for that. We didn't want to pay for this our own pocket. But the state had no funds. So we said, We'll get this done. There's a lot of money coming in and it worked out exactly as we planned, this particular one. As the previous fire chief would say, even a blind squirrel gets a nut once in a while. And this was one of those. But yeah, you're absolutely right. Selectman Morin reiterated, so it would be it would open us up to funding, to which Mr. Dhima replied, yes, there's a lot of money coming in from all directions. We don't know. We got, I got an email today, for example, for some other funds that are available. So, yes, it's one of those. But if this becomes through ARPA, we can get access to this right away. On the design. We don't have to wait until June so you got that on the other hand. If the Committee comes together and they reshuffle everything and this is considered one of those projects needs to be done, you can actually get the design, put it on the shelf and see. Selectman Morin replied, and I tell you what with the response you're getting from the new the new setup up there, it's probably, citizens will support it because it's a heck of a lot better and that will just add to it.

Chairperson Roy asked, so do we want to move this to the ARPA Committee or do we want to leave it in the budget? Selectman Morin replied I'd like to move it to the ARPA Committee. The Chair replied, I'm not opposed to that. Yeah. Selectman Guessferd agreed saying another source. Yeah. Mr. Dhima jokingly said as long as it makes it on top list. We can probably get it in but it won't be on the top five. (laughter) but we'll see, we'll see it, we'll see how that goes.

Mr. Forrence jokingly said I nominate myself and Elvis to the ARPA. He went on to say, this is a big like I said, big nut going forward, but I think it's something the town has to do. Pinard was in today, Tony, from Pinard, talking about getting some recycle barrels up to Sheppard's Hill. And on the wall I had the picture of the transfer station that I brought to the open mic night that we had there with the school, and he was looking at it and he says, you know, he says it's a good possibility, a year or so, we could help you fund this. And they would be looking for a long term contract on dumping. You know what I mean? So that's something to sit down and just talk about in a year. See what they want to do. And that would probably help out quite a bit. So there's options opening, but we just got to get out on the road a little bit to see what's best for the town. Chairperson Roy replied, okay, great. So we'll move it to the to the reshuffle of the ARPA, which again, it's on next week's agenda. Ms. Labrie asked, this is for the transfer station? To which the Chair replied, yeah. Mr. Dhima said I'll be there for that one, I guess.

The Town Administrator then said well, what would end up happening is if I'm presuming you'd want to reconstitute or reform the Committee. So that would be a project the Committee would consider. Chairperson Roy replied, right. But I'd like to see for the whole Board to see where exactly we're at. And so how much can we open it up or not? Selectman Guessferd said considering the money we just got the bridges. To which the Chair replied, right. Right. So and then what we haven't spent and what we've overspent, what's cost more that we didn't anticipate all of that so that we have a good overview of where we are with ARPA money now and then reconvene the committee and take it from there.

Mr. Dhima then said and in November, very soon we're going to get the bid coming in for Lowell Road and First Brook. So we will know what the cost of the construction of that third project is we're working on. So we have a cost for the design already done. We're under budget on that one. We put \$650,000 for the construction piece of Lowell Road bridge, but our estimate right now came at \$450,000-\$480,000, so we might be having a bit of money there as well. So we'll see what the numbers comes in, but we'll have a better idea to where that's at very soon, within a couple of weeks or so when the bids are in. So we're going to have that locked in as well. Chairperson Roy replied, all right. Thank you.

Chairperson Roy then said so our final out of budget request is three staff vehicles for the Fire Department. He did send me some updated numbers. Chief Tice came forward and said good evening again. So after after our discussion the other night, we went back, we really took a look at what we were trying to accomplish with our vehicle replacements, what we, what we really needed. And we contacted Ford because my concern was the lack of availability of a Ford Explorer. And what they explained is the police interceptor package, Ford Explorer is what's not available currently. That's really you know, we looked at what we needed. We don't really need the police interceptor package. We can get by with a kind of consumer off the lot normal explorer, which they indicated they didn't think was going to be an issue on availability. So we were able to revise our numbers, so we were able to reduce the cost of the vehicle by \$3,159. We also took a look at the what were we doing for a fit up with the vehicle. We can go with something a lot simpler than what we were looking at and try to reuse some of the equipment of the vehicles we would be replacing. So we were able to cut that by \$8,434 dollars. We were factoring in potential 10% inflation. We cut that to a potential 5% inflation. And I neglected to factor in also the potential trade and value of the vehicles we were getting rid of. I discussed trade in value, but we didn't factor that in. So that dropped our original request by \$68,940.05 to \$122,006 4805 over the course of five years, so dropped our annual lease payment \$15,832,04. So that would leave us with an annual lease payment of \$30,490.35. Chairperson Roy asked, so that becomes your new out of budget request? To which Chief Tice replied, ves.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said as I hinted that last time, too, for the sake of discussion asking you, you said two vehicles are at 90,000, 95,000. One was at 60,000 miles. If I asked you, what would the cost be for just two vehicles? I don't know if I can support replacing a 60,000-mile vehicle unless you show me pictures of serious rust damage. I would tend to throw that out for the discussion.

Chief Tice replied, I would say that would be because all the vehicles were quoted the same price. It would be \$20,000...roughly \$20,000. When we look at some quick math, because it would be. Selectman Gagnon said you have three vehicles at approximately \$30,000 estimate? Chief Tice replied yeah, probably because we'd only be trading in two vehicles. So it would be about that. Selectman Guessferd asked what would that do to you operationally? Chief Tice replied, operationally depending upon I mean going by the mileage and not by the years we took care of that vehicle. Hopefully it would make it the five years. My goal is to get all the vehicles more on a replacement schedule. So we're not; right now we're paying a lot of lease purchase payments because we were behind on all our upper all our apparatus. So I'm trying to get to a point where I can space them out a little more so we're not making so many payments. So my goal is to not replace another vehicle for five years. So the five years that we're paying on these that my hope so my hope would be that it would last another five years or really six years from now.

Selectman Gagnon asked do you know how many miles you put on these? The 60,000-mile vehicle? How many miles? I don't know who that runs that vehicle. How many that? Chief Tice replied, I'm actually surprised that that one so low on miles, I know Deputy O'Brien had that vehicle for several years and didn't travel as much, whereas the Explorer that Chief Buxton had is several years newer and has 35,000 more miles on it. So it just was the amount of use. So if we needed to take care of, take care of that vehicle and make it last longer, we could monitor the mileage on the vehicles or rotate them around if needed. If we had somebody driving more miles and somebody else.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said I was just going to say they can take whatever car that they don't treat in and give it to somebody that's not going to be driving as much and save it. And my biggest concern, I talked to the Chief today to make sure that there was a second command car just in case something happens and they're going to have that. Selectman Guessferd said so two could work. Chief Tice replied yeah.

The Chairperson asked, all right, so what does the Board want to do? <u>Selectman Gagnon made a</u> <u>motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to approve \$20,490 for the out of budget expense for two</u> <u>vehicles out of Department 5730-404 Department Fire for truck replacement of two vehicles. Carried</u> <u>5-0</u>.

The Town Administrator said to the Chairperson, if you wanted to take a brief nonpublic you'd have to entertain <u>a motion to go into nonpublic under 91-A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely 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 Morin made this motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.</u>

The Board went into nonpublic session at 8:47p.m. The public was asked to leave the room.

The Board reentered public session at 9:07p.m.

Chairperson Roy said we will continue our discussion on out of budget requests, particularly to hire an associate planner. Is the first one. And then to contract with NRC for a part time code enforcement assistant. So let's start with the associate planner. What is the will of the Board?

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you, Madam Chair. Out of a lot of discussion, I'm still seeing the value in adding a full time position here. I would probably not support the part time position below it to save a little bit of out of budget additional expense. I just think with the master planning, the visioning sessions, you know, trying to get our ordinances, our zoning in line, really taking a future stance about the way Hudson should be shaped and move and input from our residents is a very, very high priority, I believe, from what townspeople have said and I personally believe is very important. I see this role, even if it is split 50/50 or somewhere thereof, between zoning and planning to allow us to have better code enforcement as well. I still see that being a very high priority, and I'm always biased to future minded positions and future minded actions, and I think this is one. So I really strongly think I'm going to vote for this full time associate planner, against the part time code enforcement, assuming they will share. And then that's going to lead me into some thoughts about the warrant article as far as adding headcounts to other departments as well.

Chairperson Roy asked, anybody else? Selectman McGrath said I am not going to support this under any circumstances.

Selectman Morin asked the Town Administrator, can you just explain that it's already a position? The Town Administrator explained, so the position is a position that's been authorized but not funded by the town for some number of years. So in the roster of positions, this was always a position. There

just has not been any funding applied to that position. What you'd be doing effectively is adding funding to the budget for that already authorized position.

Chairperson Roy said I still don't know. Mr. Guessferd do you have any thoughts? Selectman Guessferd replied, I think. I think I'm in, I'm in favor of. I really understand what you're saying. And I'm really concerned about. About a lot of different things, but. But I'm kind of landing in the same place as Selectman Gagnon in terms of if we hire the associate planner or we hire one and fund it, then that shifts the ability for us to get some zoning enforcement done by having this person also handle some of the administrative aspects of zoning. And you know I do, I understand. But I on the other side, I do understand the fact that, you know. You know, the gap widens between default and and our budget. And the only thing there is, again, I think citizens need to make decisions. And if they if we put this in. They're going to need to understand that if they if we go back to a default budget, this doesn't happen just like a lot of the other things don't happen as well. There is a consequence to that action. And but, you know, I do see that we would have the work to be able to be able to give that person a, you know, gainfully employ them, put it that way. Just that's where I'm that's where I'm that's where I'm landing. It's not an easy it's not an easy one. It's not cut and dried for sure for sure. But maybe we put it in the hands of the citizens to decide, but we don't. Because one of the other things that we're also talking about is positions, which we're going to talk about soon. And if if we change this over to something different, it's just going to be one more thing. I mean, maybe maybe it is. And I think no matter what we do, the citizens will have to decide, you know, when they vote and stuff. We just don't want we don't want our citizens to just throw up their hands and say no, which is what they've done in the last two years. So that's the other side of it. I can be convinced.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said at this time we only have eight warrant articles. Should we throw this on a warrant article? Chairperson Roy replied, so we do but I think I could find that piece of paper because I have all these papers. Three of them are three warrant articles are related to positions. Selectman Morin asked, have we got anything from the zoning yet? Chairperson Roy said that's an out of budget request. Selectman Guessferd said I'm pretty sure there will be a few I just don't know what they are. The Town Administrator said so we don't know, there's the operating budget for the water, general fund, and sewer. So that's three. Presumably we'll have two contracts, labor contracts; that that adds up. Rumor has it that we may have to forward something to reaffirm our optional veterans tax credit. I think something in the law is going to necessitate us doing something not moneyed, but an article. But we don't know. We could have one, two, four, six zoning articles. That's not monetary. Right now you have the monetary list, but you have to include the three budgets if they all have an article and possibly or probably two labor contracts. That's what we've got. And don't forget, citizens can petition through January10th.

<u>Selectman Morin made a motion to move Department 5571-100 Planning, Salaries and Benefits Hire</u> <u>Associate Planner, outside the budget request, in the amount of \$113,351 to the FY24 budget</u>. Selectman McGrath was recognized and said so is that going to eliminate the position that we currently have for the part time help from NRPC? The Town Administrator replied, I would presume we would not need that. Chairperson Roy agreed saying, right. Selectman McGrath then said, I would presume so too. I just wanted to make sure. I'm not voting for this but.... Selectman Morin said I think he said that. The Town Administrator added, that would be the expectation. Chairperson Roy added, if I remember correctly, in the area of \$30-40,000 per year? To which the Town Administrator replied, up to. Yes. Seeing no further discussion, the Chairperson took the vote. <u>Carried 4-1, Selectman McGrath opposed.</u>

The Chairperson then said the last one is the NRPC part time code enforcement. But I think we've wrapped that up into the into the higher associate planner. So we're all done with that today.

The Town Administrator then said so I'm going to give you a number and I think the Finance Director might be calculating another number whilst I'm giving you the number. If you could figure out what we did for the budget. The Finance Director replied, so the total, including the \$2,000 from the other night is \$551,991.00 The Town Administrator then asked, so can you, do you have a bottom line for the general fund? Can you tell? Ms. Labrie replied, general fund is \$533,991. The Town

Administrator replied, no I mean the total. Selectman Guessferd added the total dollar amount. The Town Administrator said we were at 33 million something. Ms. Labrie said this is 32,491,341 ahhh, 967. This is on the roll up page.

The Town Administrator replied, yeah. That doesn't sound right though. Ms. Labrie said this probably doesn't include the warrants. So this is the increases. The Town Administrator explained how to find the total. After a moment Ms. Labrie said \$33,651,219. The Town Administrator said sounds about right. Without a calculator.

Selectman Guessferd said isn't that 800K? Chairperson Roy replied, no. The Town Administrator said you were at \$33,119 so you added about half a million. Ms. Labrie said you added \$533,991.

The Town Administrator then said now, don't forget some of that, and I'll give you the default. But for now that's the General Fund Budget. Chairperson Roy asked and we'll adjust the default budget based on? The Town Administrator replied, I have the budget number after you vote. That's the number as it stands. I think you said, I don't know if anybody had anything else, but that's the number as it stands. I think he (Selectman Gagnon) did. But he talked when Mr. Forrence, when you came and talked about the highway stuff.

Selectman Gagnon replied, oh yes, sorry. I had a note to myself and I lost it. Not that...this is a lot of tough discussions tonight. And I do understand we're trying to be delicate, but we talked a little bit about what was required by law. Not that this is per se, but the right to know stuff. And we had discussions before about a server which would be, I believe, not a physical server, but instead a cloud based subscription type cost. And again, although it isn't the law requiring us to do it, it's pretty consistent with with most towns or cities our size, it's going to help us reduce liability. And if it approximately costs us, I think I think annually is about \$12,000 for subscription. And just remind you the Right to Know law suit that we had cost about \$40,000. So if \$12,000 a year lowers our liability from getting hit with a lawsuit again for 40K or more, it starts to balance itself out. So I want to put the discussion out there to consider a \$12,000 or approximately that amount to be added to the IT budget for that subscription for an email archiving server.

Selectman McGrath asked say that again, what's the amount? Selectman Gagnon replied, I believe the IT Director says about \$12,000 is a subscription per year. Selectman McGrath replied, so that's per year?

Chairperson Roy said I just and I know it's the last night, but I just I thought that it was like \$12,500 for the first year and then like a \$2,500-year subscription. Selectman Morin said right that's what I remember hearing too. Chairperson Roy said so it would be like \$15,000 this year and then it would be \$2,500 going forward. Right. Selectman Guessferd said because it was an upfront investment, yeah. Selectman Gagnon replied, right. That starts to ring a bell. Thank you for that clarification. Selectman Guessferd said but this year would be the \$12,000. Chairperson Roy said well it will it be 15,000 because \$12,500 plus the subscription costs. So it would be, if I'm doing the math right, which you should never trust me. I think it's \$15,000 for this year. And then going forward it'd be \$2,500. Yes, that was my understanding of what Mr. Beike had had indicated.

Selectman Gagnon then said I can if we have the sake of discussion tonight, if we approve it or not, I can certainly talk with them about the exact number, but that is the intent. Chairperson Roy said yeah, I would support that because I agree that there would be a reduction in our liability. It would help us be more transparent, you know, just because stuff is easy to find and, you know. Selectman Gagnon replied and it puts us on par with with almost everybody. It's pretty normal. Chairperson Roy added, communities of our size. Selectman McGrath asked, what were the communities again? Selectman Gagnon replied, so I know Nashua has it. Selectman McGrath replied, that's a city. Selectman Gagnon went on to say yeah but I mean we're we're still pretty good size. I mean a lot of the larger cities it's pretty normal practice to have it. The discussion I had with Mr. Beike is he wasn't going to look into it until we made a vote on it. And we've discussed it. We never really made a vote on it to authorize him to look into more research. But he did talk to Nashua. The gentleman on the Right to Know Committee was a he used to work for towns in Massachusetts, so he had input for
other towns that this is pretty normal practice as well. Selectman McGrath asked, and who was that? To which Selectman Gagnon replied, Mr. Dubuc. Chairperson Roy added it was Mr. Dubuc cuz I watched that meeting. Selectman Gagnon went on to say he was, he worked for town IT. So he had a lot of input about, about this being pretty normal and professional world. It's absolutely bottom line normal.

Chairperson Roy then said I just think again, it would, it would help us prevent some possible liabilities there. We we could be more transparent. You know, there wouldn't be an issue because I'm running into it right now that you have a size and it wouldn't matter that you have a certain size on your mailbox because it would be archived. So once I delete it, it's still somewhere if somebody needs it. You know. Selectman Gagnon replied, it could be noted that it's actually more efficient, too, because someone like Mr. Beike could go in, just search, get the stuff and it's done rather than, you know. Jill, can you please give me your email and Mr. Dhima, please give me your email. And having these employees take their time and their paid time to go dig through their stuff and collect all of it, IT could do a quick search and be done within minutes. Selectman McGrath then asked, so is this the lawsuit that the town had to settle on and pay out money to Chairperson Roy said no, this is the lawsuit that that form the Right to Know Committee. that was part of the settlement. Selectman McGrath replied so that was part of the settlement. So there was a settlement fee that was paid. Chairperson Roy replied, I don't believe they paid out money. The Town Administrator said we got paid. we got money. Selectman McGrath asked, we did? Chairperson Roy replied, yeah, I believe...Selectman Guessferd interjected saying and we got \$40,000. The Town Administrator added we got \$40,000 and as part of the language we agreed, the Board agreed, to do a right to know committee and whatnot. But we didn't pay. Selectman Guessferd added we got our legal fees back. The Town Administrator continued saying, we had legal fees incurred and we recovered those legal fees from the Selectman Gagnon said we got lucky this time, but. Selectman McGrath said I guess I'll have to ask my questions later.

The Town Administrator then said when you say this year, are you talking this fiscal year? Are you talking next fiscal year? Selectman Guessferd said added to the budget. Selectman Gagnon said added yeah add it to the '24 budget. The Town Administrator then said so this wouldn't start till after July. Chairperson Roy replied, correct, right. The Town Administrator replied just to make sure everybody's clear on that, because I hear this year and it makes me, which year are you talking about?

Chairperson Roy asked anybody else have anything? So I don't know what the line item is for? The Town Administrator said 5330 is the department. Chairperson Roy said I think this would be a general IT wouldn't it? The Town Administrator replied yeah, 5330 is IT but I just have to figure out I'm assuming it's software? The Chairperson replied, I think it's hardware and software. Selectman Gagnon replied, first year hardware and then software. The Town Administrator replied the simplest thing is 5330-412. It's a very simple. Ms. Labrie asked and how much are we adding? The Chairperson replied 15,000. I would say 15,000. The Town Administrator said somebody would need to make a motion. <u>Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to add</u> <u>\$15,000 to line 5330-412 for the fiscal year 2024.</u> The Chair asked Selectman McGrath, do you have a question? Selectman McGrath replied, no, I'm going to abstain because I'm not I'm not convinced. <u>Carried 4-0-1, Selectman McGrath abstained</u>.

The Town Administrator then addressed the Board saying, so now your number, if you're counting, is 33,666,219. That's where you stand right now. As far as the general fund operating budget, \$33,666,219.

Chairperson Roy said so I think that finishes our out of budget requests. The Town Administrator said so if that's the case and if you're done, you'd entertain <u>a motion to forward the Fiscal Year 2024</u> <u>General Fund Operating Budget in the amount of \$33,666,219 to the warrant. Selectman Morin made this motion. It was seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Carried 4-1. Selectman McGrath opposed</u>. The Town Administrator then said I would also look for <u>a motion to forward the Fiscal Year 2024</u> <u>General Fund Default Budget in the amount of \$33,004,067. Selectman Morin made this motion and</u> <u>Selectman Gagnon seconded it. Carried 4-1. Selectman McGrath opposed</u>.

Warrant Articles

The Town Administrator explained, so now you have warrant articles. That's the last section that I prepared for you. This is a list of the warrant articles that have been submitted through the various departments. And basically, they're organized by hiring, then by funding for capital reserve funds, with the final one being the consideration of the town clerk/tax collector. So I recommend you walk through each one and determine what you want to do. I will say this you are not; you don't have to do all of them or any of them tonight. You have time. You had to do the operating budget. But warrant articles in theory, you still have time to do. What does that mean? You could still receive warrant articles, as you will for the two contracts so you can still forward those on to the Budget Committee. Obviously you don't want to wait till the last minute. I would recommend you do things if you can sooner rather than later. But I'm just, you don't have the same urgency that you had on the operating budget. I know for one fact here, unless the Chief has something the firefighter one doesn't have any dollar figures associated with at this point in time, unless something changed. Chairperson Roy said for this fiscal year. Chief Tice, from the audience said, we haven't seen that grant information come through yet. The Town Administrator went on to say, so you would probably be hard pressed to forward something that you don't have all the data on at this point in time. Doesn't mean you can't do it down the road. It just means I would probably recommend that you don't do it without information.

Chairperson Roy asked Chief Tice, so I guess in the spirit of efficiency, are you prepared to for this to go forward tonight or no? The Town Administrator replied, he doesn't have the numbers. Chief Tice replied, no I am not. Chairperson Roy then said so we can we can take this one off. Do you know when you'll get numbers? Chief Tice replied we're kind of at the mercy of the federal government. Selectman Guessferd asked, this is the, is four firefighters? Chairperson Roy replied, this is a grant.

Selectman Gagnon said Madam Chair, before we go forward, I just want to clarify how this process works. I believe maybe it was just myself was misunderstood last year. But should we take two votes on each warrant article? One to say if we push it to the warrant or not, and the second vote to say how we, if we support it or not, I know some people can say I'll push it to the voters to have them vote, but I don't support it. So should we take two votes per warrant article?

The Town Administrator replied, it's your warrant. So if you're supporting things as a body that you don't that you don't support, why are you doing that? Chairperson Roy then said no, no. But but I think what his point is, if we, for instance... The Town Administrator said don't forward. Chairperson Roy continued saying no, we forward it, but it's a vote, say 3 to 2. Right? And one person says...The Town Administrator said well, three to two is recommend. Chairperson Roy replied, well no, no. That's to forward it and then that doesn't necessarily mean... I might want the voters to decide. That doesn't necessarily mean I would recommend it. Selectman Guessferd said it's unusual that we would usually... I don't think I've ever seen that happen before. Chairperson Roy replied, right. Selectman Guessferd continued saying, it's our warrant articles, we certainly could do that. And we've got to make sure the message is clear to the voter if we do that. Chairperson Roy replied, but well only one thing appears and that's the recommended portion. Selectman Morin said, but why would we recommend if we didn't want it to go forward? The Town Administrator said not recommended 1-4. Why would you do that? Selectman Morin said why would we recommend to move it forward if we don't agree with it? Selectman Guessferd said we're going to kick the can down the road, voter. The Town Administrator said, it's your warrant is what I'm trying to tell you. Chairperson Roy then said well, no, no. I do see it as two different things. I might say that I want to push something and let the voters decide. But I don't personally, you know, I don't agree. Selectman Morin said well in theory we should just say yes to all of them and let them decide. There should be no...I mean. The Administrator explained, but that's what your, part of responsibility, is to decide.

Selectman Morin said exactly let them decide. Selectman Guessferd then said, on the other side of that.... Chairperson Roy said I see it as two different issues, but sure.

Selectman Guessferd replied, and I understand the two different issues, but without a vote is what you're saying, that we don't even vote on the second piece. So in other words, we vote to push it forward. But then the vote is 1 to 4 against, right? Is that what you're saying? So what would be that? What would be that theoretical warrant? How would it look? Chair so I think it would be individual Board members. And so we'll take the four firefighters. Right? I may say, well, let the voters decide, but then I might say, well, from a sort of fiscal standpoint going forward, I understand that, that I wouldn't want to support it. So I wouldn't necessarily recommend it. You know? Selectman Morin asked, so you're looking to do like the Budget Committee does, is that what you're saying? Because that's what they do. Chairperson Roy said honestly, it's more...The Town Administrator said because it's your warrant. It's not their warrant.

Selectman Morin said no, I understand that. The Town Administrator said that's the difference. Selectman Morin said that's what she's saying. Chairperson Roy said honestly in my head that's more logical to me. Selectman Morin said but again, if you're forwarding it then.... Chairperson Roy said well I wouldn't necessarily recommend that we forward everything. I mean, if there was.... Selectman Morin replied, but if we if we all said yes, but if we say no and don't forward it, that shows that we're not in favor of it because we don't want it to go forward. Selectman Guessferd then said I mean, it's almost a self-fulfilling prophecy, I'll say. So if we forward something and then I would assume that we would also say how we voted on it to the voter or not. The Chair replied, I would presume. Selectman Guessferd continued saying, so it's on the ballot, as you know, whatever it is, and it says not recommended by, not recommended by the Selectmen 2 to 3 or whatever. That's what it would say, right? The Chair replied, possibly, yes. Selectman Morin asked, so why is it there that. Selectman Guessferd went on to say well and the problem I have, the problem I have there is, is that so many of those voters are going to be looking, look at these they don't they don't do a lot of research themselves, right? So they're going to vote no because they say, oh, the Selectmen didn't want it. Selectman Gagnon replied, not always. Not always a lot of times. Selectman Guessferd continued saying, it's it's going to be most of the time. I mean, you're talking about some of your conservation articles. But but the point is, I mean, sure. I mean, we could do it, but I could the majority of the people, most of the time, are going to say, why should I vote for it, especially in this environment where we have you know, there's a lot of pressure to.

Selectman Gagnon then said we don't have to do it for everything. It just gives us the option, if we have one, that we're torn on. If not, if they're cleared all, if we don't agree with it don't put it to warrant. Selectman Morin replied if you're torn on it, vote no. Selectman Guessferd said we're going to have to vote on one way or the other. I mean, again, if you want to do that, fine, we'll do it. But I'm just not sure. I'm not sure I'm sold on it either. Chairperson Roy replied, okay. Well, I guess what's the will of the Board? I'm only one person. The Town Administrator then said so devil's advocate, when you get petitions, clearly those are ones that come from outside of the body. The body would not, you didn't sponsor it. You would vote yes or no. Or here's another scenario. Go to Deliberative Session. Somebody says, let's put another \$100,000 in there and then you reconvene at the end and say, no, we're not we're not recommending that. We had our article. You've changed our article. Selectman Gagnon interjected saying there are articles that have the Town Administrator continued saying, these are your articles is all I'm trying. I know I keep saying the same thing. These are your articles that if you don't support it in the first place, why are you forwarding it? Selectman Morin said why vote for them? Selectman Gagnon then said because maybe I want to see, you know, see if I'm in touch with the voters. Maybe I say, look, I don't think it's, I don't agree with it, but let's see what the voters think. And if they they don't pass it, then maybe I was right. Selectman Morin replied but you are. If you forward it and they don't pass it, then, you know. The Town Administrator then went on to say the other thing is, too, if you forward things that you don't want to do or don't believe in, why are you clogging up and making a lengthier warrant? Selectman Gagnon replied, yeah I guess I'm not saying it for everything. I don't see it being an argument for everything, but just having the ability to have that as an option. But again, if we only

take one vote, so be it. Just want to put it out there and ask. Chairperson Roy replied, okay, all right, let's move on.

Does the School take one vote? Selectman Guessferd replied, it's a very interesting topic. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. All right. Moving on.

Chairperson Roy said all right. So I guess he doesn't need to stay, right? Scott, right? The Town Administrator replied, you can do whatever you'd like. I'm assuming you're not going to take any action on that one, because you...The Chair agreed saying, right. The Town Administrator went on to say but he does have an apparatus reserve fund. The Chair replied, oh, that's right. The Town Administrator replied, I don't believe there's any more input you'd need from anybody unless you. Unless you wanted it. You heard input the other evening. You have a list. If you have questions, you could certainly ask. But. It's up to you. Chairperson Roy replied, so that's fine.

Warrant Article D Higher Police Patrol Officer

The Chair said the first one is Police Patrol Officer. Selectman McGrath asked anybody want to make a motion to forward? The Town Administrator said if you wanted to forward you'd make a motion. The Chair said so actually, before we do that, Chief, can you come up cuz I have? So when we spoke last week...so it says hire police patrol officer, but we were talking about a wellness officer. Chief Dionne replied you asked us to change the language. The Town Administrator added so if you read the language, says the police officer will replace a patrol officer. So we're hiring a patrol. Selectman Guessferd said it didn't describe what it was, It's actually hiring a patrol officer to replace the person that would go into the wellness position. You know, I just wanted to make sure it was clear. Selectman Morin said and see, that's that's kind of like what we just talking about that's going to throw the voters off because they're thinking you're getting a police officer and when nobody gets educated, why do we need another police officer when it's a whole different thing that we're trying to get? Selectman Guessferd said if we want to reword it, that's fine. Selectman Morin said I just don't know if we can because we're moving, we're making a position. Because we don't have it now. Selectman Guessferd said we're not hiring a wellness, right. Selectman Morin replied, we're making a position for that. So why can't we? The Town Administrator said you're assigning somebody the duties of it. So it's still a, it's still a police officer. They're getting they're getting different duties, but it's still a police officer, probably a master patrol officer, if I had to speculate.

Chief Dionne asked, the wellness officer? Yes. The Chair then said but, but couldn't we just do like plain English? Like after the whole, shall the Town of Hudson vote to raise an appropriate. This will create a new wellness officer position? Selectman Morin replied, I think we should, I really do. Chairperson Roy said cuz I still don't think.... Selectman Guessferd said it's not. It's going to have a much better chance to pass if we if we address the wellness piece up front. To which the Chair replied, right. I mean, I just think. Selectman Guessferd replied, that's the whole idea here. Chairperson Roy said right. Just put a sentence in there this will create a new position. Cuz it's not a wellness position, cuz it's not creating a new patrol officer position. It's creating a new wellness position.

Selectman McGrath asked, how about if you just said hire patrol officer to be known as a wellness officer? Wouldn't that do the same thing? To which Selectman Guessferd replied, the person we're hiring isn't going to be the wellness officer, correct? Chief Dionne replied that's correct. Selectman Guessferd continued saying they're replacing that position. Yeah, it's weird. I mean, it's. Chief Dionne added we're hiring a backfill to create a position.

Selectman Gagnon said seems so easy to me. I say just you're hiring a wellness officer and you open it up for applications. You know who you're going to hire. You hire him. And then later on down the road, we have this meeting. Chief Dionne replied, that person is already hired. I suppose. You're filling a position. I guess so. I was worried. I'm worried specifically about that. I mean, when we. If I place someone in the Services Bureau who wasn't previously there, we're not hiring the officer, right?

We're just moving them into a position. The Town Administrator said you can assign them duties as long as their patrol or master patrol officer, you're assigning duties, that's up to you. What division they're in is immaterial. You have 52 authorized people. If you do this position, they come out and now you're going to need 53, right? The Chief replied I have 51 authorized people. The Town Administrator said 51, I'm one number off, sorry.

Chief Dionne jokingly said I like 52 better. He then said I think I am worried about the wording. I do want the wording to be presented so that it's most accurate as to what we're actually doing. Selectman Guessferd said we want the people that show up at the deliberative session to know that. Chief Dionne continued saying, we're appropriating funds. Chairperson Roy said we're creating a new position that doesn't currently exist. I think that's the the important message there, that it's not just a patrol officer. We're creating a whole new position. Selectman Morin then said and I got to tell you, as much as we need, if it's higher patrol officer, we're not getting out. I won't vote for that because we're not telling the people what we're really getting. Selectman Guessferd replied that's fine. I'm just, I'm struggling with the wording. I agree with you that that's the only way we're going to get it right is if we we we say it's a wellness officer that's being created. Whatever it is that wellness piece is, is to me at the forefront of this.

Selectman Morin then asked, do we need to get a legal interpretation on the wording before we do this? The Town Administrator replied in the end, DRA does it, but you're not going to get DRA to agree to anything at this point. You know what I'm saying? Can we get Dave Lefevre to write something? Yeah, I guess he could write something, but it may not be what you want. Selectman Morin replied, well, no. That's my concern. Cuz I just. If you write police officer, you're not going to get it. Selectman Guessferd said it's just too many words in the title to say, like to replace. Do we say create? Do we say create wellness officer position? Chairperson Roy replied, so what I suggest is that there's another line after the very first line that says this will create a wellness officer position. Selectman Guessferd replied, I know but I think what Dave is saying, it's got to be in the title, too. Dave replied it does. Selectman Guessferd replied because that's what people are gonna see. Chairperson Roy replied, so then why don't we just call it that? Create a wellness officer. Instead of hiring. Because we're not hiring anybody. Selectman Morin added, we're actually hiring a person to fill a position that we already have. With a wellness officer we do not have. Selectman Guessferd said so creating wellness officer position, right? Chairperson Roy replied, right. Selectman Guessferd then said and funding it? To which Selectman Morin replied, I'm not even sure we're going to get it anyway. Chairperson Roy replied, No, I get it. I get it too. But I think it should be as clear as possible. Selectman Guessferd replied, I support the concept of what you're doing right. I support the concept big time. But it's yeah, I think it's got to be there. So if we say create wellness officer position, maybe that's the title. That's what we do. And we just leave the wording pretty much the way it is. We just put the title in there that says create.

The Town Administrator then said Create Police Wellness Officer Position. Shall the Town.... Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. And wages/benefits to hire one police wellness officer position. That's you're doing, right? Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. This officer will be assigned to the Police Services Division as the wellness officer. Get rid of the words "will replace" and just say "will be assigned to the Police Services Division as the wellness officer serving the police department, the community of Hudson". That we have authorized a position. You can take somebody current, move them and backfill that person. You're done. Right? Does that make sense to you? Selectman Guessferd asked now, if for some reason, let me just make sure if for some reason this doesn't pass, does that mean we can't? What are you going to do?

Chief Dionne replied, well I'm going to.... The Town Administrator replied, that does create an issue, because if you're identifying it here and it doesn't pass? The Chairperson interjected saying you cannot then create it. No is no. The Town Administrator went on to say you could call it a happiness officer. Chief Dionne replied, it's difficult because I don't I don't have the I really don't have the people. I don't...if we were fully staffed, it would be different. I would definitely have a different approach at this point. But we're not. I really can't be fully staffed right now. So that's kind of the issue. That's kind of the issue we're at. So, yes, it would be a different approach, I suppose, to that.

Chief Dionne went on to say, but I, I also say that if we can agree on some language, which I think that that works, you know, this is it's up to me to sell this to, you know, I have my own work to do. If we're if this passes this Board then I have my own work to do in order to get this message out as to why. It's the why. Like what I talked to you about, I need to talk to everybody about.

Selectman Gagnon said I'm gonna go out on a limb here and probably look bad, but I'm going to tell you my honest opinion. I'm in full support of the wellness officer. So if you make the wellness officer and I think from what you're telling us, it's hard to fill. You have three open positions right now. And this would make for open sessions. Right? Because you move him to the wellness. Chief Dionne replied that's correct. Selectman Gagnon went on to say it's hard to fill those positions right now in your line of work. So what's the big deal if you have three open positions versus four positions, why are we even having this discussion? Why not make the wellness officer and just call it a done day? Chief Dionne replied to be quite honest with you, I can't fill my positions because I don't have the money to run the Police Department by filling those positions. I'm... you know, we're in a default budget, so I I'm leaving vacancies in order to make ends meet. Selectman Gagnon replied oh, so you're leaving vacancies because of the budget not because you can't fill it? Chief Dionne replied, that's correct. That is correct. No, I mean, we're in the process of trying to hire right now. And in all honesty, yes, we are...we do not have a pool of applicants just knocking down the door. That is, we are competing with every agency for the same named people that are in line. Literally. I mean, if I called Salem PD today and asked about a guy just interviewed yesterday, they'll tell me they just stalked him and that he's this way into their process and this person is this far into Nashua's process. We're really communicating the same pool of people. But I do have an applicant pool, and we are in the process of trying to fill one of those vacancies right now. But I'm trying to do it very strategically so that I don't overburden the taxpayer or and go over my budget. That's exactly what the problem is. That is much more of a problem than the lack of applicants. Selectman Guessferd then said you're going to have another opening soon.

Selectman Gagnon then said that's my point, is that what's the difference being three or four. Chief Dionne replied, it's a great question. I understand where you're coming from, honestly, I understand where you're coming from. But the bigger concern is that, you know, I can't run fully staffed anyways. Selectman Gagnon replied okay, thank you.

Selectman Morin then said so I gotta go on Selectman Gagnon's comments then. If you don't have enough money to fill your regular officers, should we just go a year and keep the officers what we can on the street? Where you don't have? I get this. After the talk I did a lot of looking into this and but he's got a point. I mean, if we can't fill the officers that we need for patrol and he's a school resource officer too, that means you're going to have to fill that position, which is going to take another officer off the street per se, right? Chief Dionne replied that's correct. Well, we're taking another off the street, but I would then be filling that. Selectman Morin replied but he's gonna be detailed to the right versus. Chief Dionne replied, I would be filling his position. I mean, there is a challenge with the applicant pool that. Selectman Morin replied, oh no I understand and there's a challenge with your budget. I fully get it. Chief Dionne replied, it compounds itself. It compounds its own self. I mean, you have the whole problem of of running minimum staff on two of three of your shifts every day. And that in and of itself is not beneficial for the wellness of the police officers. I personally, I feel so strongly about it. That's why I...Selectman Gagnon brings up a good point. Chief Dionne replied and I would be here right before you again next year. Selectman Morin replied, and I would hope so.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said so how about if we rename this leave and hire police patrol officer but put in the words that will function as a wellness officer. Did someone already say? The Town Administrator asked as a title? Selectman McGrath replied, as a title? The Town Administrator then said title is a title. It's not the body of the warrant article. So I mean, the title is just a.... Selectman Morin said we just want to make sure that people understand what they're getting with the title. But the body is what they're voting on. They're not voting on titles. Selectman McGrath then said but I mean, doesn't that kind of cover the the problem that we're having trying to put wellness officer in as opposed to a patrol officer?

The Town Administrator replied, I think what I said was Create Police Wellness Officer Position, which is maybe a same variation what you said. Selectman Guessferd said maybe a little different. Yeah. Because if we're not because we're not actually hiring the wellness officer. We're hiring the police officer or we're hiring the patrol officer to replace the wellness. So we're actually creating that position, right? The wellness position. Right? Chief Dionne replied, and I'm looking at it as obviously, it's like I said, it's a compounding issue. I feel this is a recruitment and retention would be a tool for recruitment and retention as well. So, you know, it's and you know, it's a mutually beneficial role for the Town itself as well.

Selectman McGrath asked, do you do you think that would help in recruiting officers to that position. Do you think that there are officers out there that that could function? Chief Dionne replied, I think, you know, obviously I, I speculating slightly on that because I, I don't know the overall effect on the applicants today, but I think if they were checking boxes as to what we do versus and they were actually comparing what they might get from another agency and they knew that we had someone assigned to that role, I think that would be something that would attract people. I certainly think the retention end of it would be very strong because that's that's the whole idea. That is one big chunk of what the whole program is, is to help help people and first responder role to be resilient and to keep them instead of losing them from burnout, substance abuse, from what have you. That's the one way I think it's important. That's the biggest reason why I think it's just as important whether the economy is in the tank or not in the tank, because if it, if it, if the flipside is if it does have an effect and it really does what it does, what would happen if we don't have that as we continue on in the same environment that we're in.

Selectman Gagnon then asked but can't you still have the wellness officer, though? You'd be losing someone on the street, but you can still make a wellness officer, which we all fully support. Chief Dionne replied, I could. I could. And I think what I was trying to we are I'm I met minimum staffing on two of the three shifts. So it would be so in other words every we have someone take a day off on two of my shifts and I have to cover it with overtime, you know what I mean? So and that's that's because I'm at minimum staffing. The shift that I'm not on minimum staffing the second shift and that's the busy one. That's the most busy shift. So we're not at minimum staffing there. So, you know, I don't want to necessarily go down to a situation where I'm minimally staffed on all. But that may be where, like I said, I, I have to look at it. I have to understand where I might be if this doesn't pass and I would have a second approach. I'm not quitting on it. And so I would have other approaches on it. And, you know, I it's not like I can pull from Services or the Schools and I can't take the resource there. The only other area I have is Detectives. And, you know, I we have plenty of work in Detectives right now, too. So it's a balance act.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said I'm just, you know... I get it. I get it. I just got the concern that you're handling it now, per se. You know what I mean? I don't know. I'm having a tough time with this one, Chief. I really am, you know, and it involves me. It could involve me personally. But we're dealing with it. Maybe not 100%, but he does an outstanding job. I've been part of stuff that he that he's done and it's getting done and just, I don't know. Chairperson Roy then said it's not that I don't support the concept. It's just I don't know that this is the year to do it. That's where I'm at. Chief Dionne replied, I understand. Selectman Morin then said can we, can we...no because actually, I want to bring up the next one too. The fire guys, next. Anyway, so we're not going to, I don't want it defer it. Selectman Gagnon then said you know, Dave, we could do is you can take one vote to put it to the warrant and then not support it. Selectman Morin replied, absolutely. Absolutely. But then that's not fair. Because that leads these guys on. You know what I mean? That's not fair. Selectman Gagnon replied, no, it's a joke.

Chairperson Roy then asked, so what is the will of the Board? Selectman Guessferd said well, we gotta vote, right? To which the Chairperson replied, yeah. Selectman McGrath said I fully support it, so. And whatever we call it, I support that position. <u>Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by</u> <u>Selectman Guessferd to move Warrant Article D, Hire Police Patrol Officer, to the warrant. Motion</u> <u>Failed, 2-3. Selectmen Gagnon and Morin and Chairperson Roy were opposed</u>. Selectman Guessferd then said it's not recommended. The Town Administrator said it's not forwarded.

Chairperson Roy said it's not forwarded. It won't go on the warrant. Selectman Morin added but a petition article can come in on it. Chairperson Roy said which we have to put on. Like the petition warrant articles. Selectman Guessferd replied, right, right, right. I know we have to do that. Okay.

Warrant Article E, Fire Four (4) Firefighter/AEMT

Selectman Morin said I know, I understand the Chief doesn't have any numbers for this, but I would like to bring this up for discussion too. We're in the same boat there. I mean, and nothing against the Fire Department. That's my place. Chairperson Roy said I had the conversation with the Chief already about it. Selectman Morin went on to say they got their three stations. They got all new apparatus. Selectman Guessferd said come on up Chief. Selectman Morin went on to say, you know what I mean. They've got all new trucks, they're doing well. They've got manpower that we've never seen before. Again, this one a year we could put off, probably.

Chairperson Roy said yeah. So that was my question is I think I asked the last time that SAFER grants come up every year, so. Chief Tice replied, correct. Yeah. So if we were to not do it this year, we would have an opportunity next year to revisit this. Chairperson Roy replied and that's as I indicated to you, that's kind of where I am with that. Chief Tice replied right. I understand that the there's a lot of other priorities and I understand where we are economically. So if we need to put this off a year and have another discussion about next year, I completely understand.

Selectman Gagnon then said and if I may, but both yourself and the Chief who left probably disheartened. for me, this is not we don't support you. It's just that I see Town Hall. You guys are all kind of suffering. You know, you all need something. But the people in Town Hall, I feel like, have suffered the longest. And so that's why I've kind of put my support this year with backing up some actions in Town Hall. And as Mr. Morin said too, you know, your departments, you run them excellently and they do very well. So I'm hoping you can hold your breath for a year to let Town Hall get a little or a little ease this year because they certainly need it. Chief Tice replied, yeah, trust me, I don't take this as not being supported. It's clear we have a lot of a lot of needs in Town. And like Selectman Morin said we've made some good ground lately, so I'm really not in a position to complain.

Chairperson Roy then said cuz I think if we could, we would all give everybody what they wanted. It would make our world much easier. Selectman McGrath said not necessarily. Chairperson Roy went on to say but we don't have that. That is not the reality is these guys, it's not possible. Yeah. So do we need to do a motion, not to forward it? The Town Administrator replied well, it's probably best because you didn't forward the last one. Motion to move Warrant Article E to the warrant just for clarity purposes. <u>Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to move Warrant Article E to the warrant. Motion failed, 0-5. All Selectmen opposed this motion</u>. The Town Administrator then said it will not be forwarded to the warrant. The Board thanked Chief Tice.

The Chairperson then said, I honestly think the next ones are a little bit easier. They're the Capital Reserve Funds. My general feeling about capital reserves funds as they are, they are fiscally responsible because we don't have to go back and ask the town for lots and lots of money. The Town Administrator explained, the intent is to basically what we would call a savings account, but to anticipate expenditures that we know we routinely need to make. So these a little bit shorter. I think we've had more in the past. I say more, but this is a pretty responsible, pretty short list. So I throw that out there.

Selectman Gagnon said, and for the sake of discussion, Madam Chair, the Property Reevaluation Capital Reserve Fund, not that I don't support it, but do you think? Selectman Guessferd asked, do you want to go down these one at a time? Chairperson Roy replied, yeah I was just going to go down. Thank you.

Warrant Article F, Funding for Police Safety Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

Chairperson Roy explained, so the first one is, the first CRF warrant is Funding for Police Safety Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Is there any discussion about that? Does anybody want to make a motion? <u>Selectman Morin made a motion to move this to the warrant. This was seconded by</u> <u>Selectman McGrath. Carried 5-0.</u>

Warrant Article G, Funding for Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said not that I don't support it, but I mean, I'd be hard pressed to think that after a year of reassessments and all the whether it was right or wrong, uproar, people would vote for this just because of the name. The Town Administrator said we do them every five years so we need to start saving for the next one. Chairperson Roy added, right. And they tend to be expensive, right? And we have to do it. We don't have a choice. So either we ask for the \$25,000 between now and five years from now, or we go and we ask for whatever...Selectman Gagnon replied, so it's worth a shot even if it's no. Chairperson Roy replied, Right. Right. Because in five years, we're just doing it again. Anyways, we have to come up with the money. Selectman Gagnon replied so they're going to have to eat this whether they vote yes or not. Selectman Guessferd replied, we have to pay for it. And quite frankly we may decide to do this earlier, you know. If the economy changes. Chairperson Roy replied, right. You know, it's required every five years. That doesn't mean if something changes in the next three years that we don't...<u>Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to forward warrant article G to the warrant. Carried 5-0.</u>

Warrant Article H, Funding for VacCon Truck Replacement Capital Reserve Fund

The Town Administrator explained there's one highlight on this one. This is split 50/50 between the general fund and the sewer fund. So half the cost and it's \$15,000 is borne by the general fund. \$15,000 is borne by the sewer fund because the vehicle services is both the sewer system and the drainage system. <u>Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to forward</u> <u>Warrant Article H to the warrant. Carried 5-0.</u>

Warrant Article I, Funding for Fire Apparatus Refurbishment/Repair Capital Reserve Fund

Selectman Guessferd made a motion to forward Warrant Article I to the warrant. Carried 5-0.

Warrant Article J, Funding for Generator Replacement/Repair Capital Reserve Fund

<u>Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to forward Warrant Article J to the</u> <u>warrant. Carried 5-0.</u>

Warrant Article K, Discontinue Combined Office of Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Chairperson Roy explained so then the next one is we're back to a personnel matter. And so this is to discontinue continue the combined officer of the town clerk and town tax collector. So essentially and I'm going to I know we've talked about this before, but I'm just going to say it for the general public. We would have an elected town clerk and an appointed tax collector, and that would it would not be hired until July 1st 2025? The Town Administrator replied it would not become effective until after the

next election, after this election. So in March of 2024. After March of 2024 that whoever's in the combined position would be the clerk, the other position a collector would be hired by the Board. The tax collector is hired by the Board. Chairperson Roy asked so does anybody have any discussion? <u>Selectman Gagnon made a motion to forward this to the warrant Madam Chair. Selectman Guessferd seconded this motion. Carried 5-0.</u>

Chairperson Roy said I think that ends our warrant articles. The Town Administrator replied those are the warrants that you had this evening. So again, I anticipate two labor contracts. Potentially an article that will be not moneyed, but it will be for the veteran's tax credit. Something changes in the law. I think you may have to re adopt the alternative of the optional credit. Just a heads up. I don't have all the data on that yet.

Selectman Gagnon said I think at some point we'll have a discussion on the power aggregation stuff. I know they send an email to you to for consideration. Chairperson Roy replied, I think as we just discussed, I don't know if I actually forwarded that, it be on the agenda for the 15th. Not as a public hearing, but as a further discussion to see if they've answered any of our concerns or have any other information that might be helpful for us. The Town Administrator asked, do you mean the 22nd? I think that's your next regular meeting. Chairperson Roy replied, maybe, maybe. Sure. The Town Administrator said I'm just saying that's the next regular after. The Chair replied so the 22nd. I apologize. The Town Administrator replied, I just want to make sure I didn't miss something. Selectman Guessferd said next meeting after this? The Town Administrator replied, yeah the next regular meeting after next week is the 22nd. The Chair then said I just apparently want to spend a lot of time with you folks. So I think that closes the budget wrap up discussion.

The Town Administrator responded, unless anybody has anything else. I didn't have anything else. Selectman McGrath replied, I'd like to delay this a little longer. Chairperson Roy laughed and said okay, let's do that.

9. Board Liaison Reports

Selectman McGrath: I have nothing.

<u>Selectman Gagnon</u>: Really quick; the Power Aggregation Committee and the Sustainability Committee met last night to talk about trash and recycling statistics. Most of the discussion was embedded in their subcommittee for the power aggregation, which we've all discussed and heard the presentation. We were kind of, I guess, as they would say, licking their wounds and seeing how they want to proceed, how they understand the concerns and how they want to respond to those concerns.

NRPC I joined a Complete Streets meeting. They talked about same old kind of stuff. They talk about the ten-year plan that a lot of them are bicycle and pedestrian projects and different topics in that aspect. I missed the executive meeting because we had a budget committee meeting and I will look to Mr. Gasdia for a School Board update since I also missed your meeting because of our budgets. That's it.

<u>Selectman Guessferd</u>: I'm looking for a Rec update. Don't have one right now. But we do. On the Rec Department there's going to be a comedy show coming up on November 12th. the proceeds will go to rec scholarships for for the high school. They had the Fright night. It went well. I don't' have a lot of details. But I heard it went very well. So that's that's an annual event that I think is just really, really a good thing for the town.

The Senior Center activities keep going on. So everything is moving forward and continuing. And Christie's doing a great job as we have soccer's getting getting going. The Town Administrator spoke up saying, actually that's coming to an end. Basketball is getting going. Selectman Guessferd replied, basketball is coming, yeah. So they had sign ups and and adult basketball as well as the

kid's basketball. So there's there's a lot there. And it seems like every time of the year is and is busy for them. So just keeping the program going everything's going well.

So as far as Planning is concerned, I think I might have mentioned the big thing right, right now. I mean, it's it's the new Hillwood amended plan. It's actually the new plan and we're treating it as a new plan. So there was concern amongst the citizens that that were going through some sort of a fast tracked process. But they're not. I mean, this is looked at as a new plan and just want to make sure that anybody watching, the citizens understand that we're going through the same process they went through before. So that was presented two weeks ago. Saturday we had a site walk down it at the golf course. They were very accommodating in terms of it's a Saturday, right. And there's golf going on. But they closed off one of the courses and we walked the site. There was a lot of folks there, probably maybe 30 or 40 people that showed up, a lot of citizens. And it was I think it was if you didn't if you didn't do the one before and you weren't as close to it before, it was very informative. So it was it was worth doing. Our next our next meeting is, I think, the 9th of November, not our next meeting, but where we're going to go over this again. We're going to we're going to take up the continued planned review. So that's moving on.

Tomorrow night, we have a Planning Board meeting. I think there's four, four plans on that agenda as well. And we are going to be talking about zoning amendments. So that's that's what's happening there. So there's a lot going on in that area right now that there's we're we're looking at a lot of things. Of course, as we've said, it's driven the zoning articles and all that are driven by the master plan and all of that. And I think I think we may need to, as a Board, have some discussion soon about that master plan and the vision and all of that so that we can help to kind of again, this is part of our job is to set, set that vision and to try to move things forward to what the town and the people in the town want to do going forward. So there's I think there's going to be some more discussion there. I'll let you know if we put it on the agenda for one of our upcoming meetings. As far as that's concerned.

Nothing happening new with the cable committee. So I think that's it.

<u>Selectman Morin</u>: Conservation had their meeting last night with the Green Meadow project. They went over the conservation easements and everything and the more conservation land. So that's in the progress. They also attended the walk through with the Planning Board. And that's about it.

<u>Chairperson Roy</u>: Okay, so I only have a couple of things. I was not at the Library Board of Trustees, meeting because I was at our Board of Selectmen meeting.

The ZBA had some training by Attorney Buckley from New Hampshire Municipal Association. So that was good. And then I know that a couple of folks that weren't able to attend did watch it on TV.

And then the only other thing I have is we do have a new fire truck in town, the new Seagrave. Very exciting. Now, all of the fire trucks are the same, made by the same manufacturer and the fire department's trained up on them at this point. And they're all equipped and everything is my understanding. Selectman Morin said so if you want to know the new one, look for the number. So it's the only way you're going to tell. Chairperson Roy said it's engine two.

10. Remarks by Town Administrator

The Town Administrator was recognized and said mine's very brief. I really don't have much after all the budget stuff, but just remind me, next Tuesday is the Board's next regular meeting, so departments are aware of that. But next Tuesday, and I believe the Budget Committee starts next Wednesday. So stay tuned.

11. Remarks by School Board

School Board Chairman, Gary Gasdia was recognized and said All right. Thank you. So similar to what you all did, we're in the middle of our budget. We have a budget meeting tomorrow night. We may wrap it up then if not it may go over to our meeting on the seventh.

We also, at our last meeting, continued our series on looking at the assessment data for all of the grades. We did the elementary school earlier last month. We did the middle school at our last meeting. We're doing Alvirne next. And the idea here is really understanding the test scores and really doing a deep dive in them on my time on the Board this is the most in-depth we've ever looked at them with the hope of now we need to figure out how to improve them. Because we have great teachers, we have great students, we have great parents, but we've got a lot of work to do to get these schools where they need to be.

School is going on. We're at the end of fall sports season, so some of our teams are. Our final football game is Friday night. We have the, I know the girls' soccer team started their playoffs today, so a lot going on there. Our FFA team is at Nationals, so they won the state, as I talked about before. They're at national competition this week. We had a good number of students win Jazz All-State for instrumental and choral, with the couple being top in the state for the entire whatever their instrument was or if they were singing. And the really big news I probably saw all over Facebook yesterday, Colonel Christian Cheatham was named New Hampshire Teacher of the Year for 2023, which really is phenomenal. It was a great ceremony yesterday. The commissioner of education was there; His family was there. They were the first lady of the state was there. And he had no idea. I mean, obviously, he knew he was in the running. He knew all that. But as far as he knew it was, we're going to celebrate Junior ROTC. And then so it was a really phenomenal ceremony and I can't think of a better person to represent Hudson in New Hampshire.

So that's awesome. Congratulations to Colonel Cheatham. And that's it.

12. Other Business/Remarks by the Selectmen

Selectman Guessferd: I'm all set. I've said what I need to say

Selectman Gagnon: no ma'am

Selectman McGrath: I have no remarks. I think I've said enough tonight.

Selectman Morin: I got nothing.

<u>Chairperson Roy</u>: So I guess the only other thing is I want to reiterate the congratulations to Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Chris Cheatham for being awarded the Teacher of the Year. And with that, we'll move to non-public session.

13. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Selectman Gagnon at 10:19mp.m., seconded by Selectman Guessferd to go into nonpublic session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0. Nonpublic Session was entered at 10:11 p.m. thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public was asked to leave the room.

The Board entered open session at 10:19 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session

1.) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to appoint Deputy Clerk Donna Melanson to the position of Town Clerk/Tax Collector effective October 25, 2022 at her current rate of pay and benefits level. Carried 5-0.

2.) Selectman Guessferd made a motion to adjourn at 10:19 p.m. This was seconded by Selectman Morin. Carried 5-0.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:19 p.m.by Selectman Guessferd seconded by Selectman Morin. Carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant.

Kara Roy, Chairperson

Bob Guessferd, Vice Chairman

David Morin, Selectman

Marilyn McGrath, Selectman

Brett Gagnon, Selectmen

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the November 1, 2022 Meeting

- 1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> by Chairperson Roy the meeting of November 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall
- 2. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u> led by resident and RTK Committee member, John Dubuc

3. <u>ATTENDANCE</u>

Board of Selectmen: Brett Gagnon, Bob Guessferd, Marilyn McGrath, Dave Morin, Kara Roy

<u>Staff/Others</u>: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

1) Robinson Smith, 48 Burns Hill Road

The name is Robinson Smith, along with my son Robbie at 48 Burns Hill Road here in Hudson. I'm here to address my concerns regarding Wason Road. First, I would like to emphasize, emphasize to the community that the Board of Selectmen have yet to add Wason Road to the Board's meeting agenda. In my perspective as a father, the recent fatality of one child and hospitalization of another highlights the immediate danger of the road to the community as a whole. Words cannot describe the pain and anguish this has caused, and the after effects will continue to be difficult. As a reminder well into the future, I feel it is important for the community as a whole to recognize and highlight the function and purpose of the Board of Selectmen that sits before us tonight. The individual individuals before us oversee, make recommendations, and appropriate funds to specific town departments that are directly involved with the safety, engineering and town improvements. This group of appointed individuals wields the power, influence and vision directing our community. They oversee the police, engineering and highway departments, while also advocating for the assistance at the state level. These individuals have been entrusted by the public to hold the safety of our town in the highest esteem and regard. The Board of Selectmen are akin to a group of shepherds overseeing and protecting their flock to ensure a healthy, prosperous and growing community. Sometimes, however, the barriers and managing the daily operations can obscure the brambles that are truly impacting the group. The group's immediate needs. Unfortunately, when a decade has passed, allowing these brambles to grow and overtake the field.

You now have a situation where the flock can no longer safely traverse without risking potential harm. This, however, is a completely different story when the shepherds have been warned multiple times by the flock of the dangers growing in the field. Failing to act on such warnings early on or developing a plan to manage the hazards reveals ignorance, complacency and incompetence. This violates the very essence of their sacred responsibility to the flock, which is causing no harm while ensuring continued health and prosperity for the community. It is even more concerning when you have multiple shepherds involved empowered with this responsibility. Yet no one, not one appointed individual here tonight initiated solutions. While the course of a decade has passed. To add insult to injury, this board before the community tonight has yet to initiate any long standing solution to address the hazards of Watson Road. 30 days have passed since a fatality of a minor and apparently this board views the situation as business as usual or possibly the cost of doing business. Radar feedback signs have been removed. The Highway Department, Chief of Police and Town Engineer have not been provided any request to address the hazards. This is impacting motorists, bicyclists, or even addressing pedestrian safety. Please take, Mr. Robinson paused saying to his son, please be

quiet buddy okay? Mr. Robinson went on to say please take a moment to grasp the shame and incompetence you have embraced collectively through your inaction to our grieving community.

Other surrounding communities take fatalities extremely seriously, such as a case study in Nashua on Dublin Ave and Franconia Ave. Several teenagers in a car were killed while driving from Pine Hill Road, traveling down Dublin. Lost control of the vehicle and hit a tree. These inexperienced minors are simply trying to get home before their curfew and avoid their parent's angst. The city responded with installing a stop sign at the sharp bend on the road to prevent an incident in the future. This is an example of government maintaining and restoring the safety and trust within the community. something we have not seen from our Board as of yet. The seeds of Wason Road brambles were planted well over a decade ago with the approval of the improved new intersection with Lowell Road. This was the blessing of the Town. I'm sorry, this was with the blessing of the Town Engineer and the Planning Board to allow construction of the Stop and Shop facility, which has now become a Goodwill. Wason Road was originally designed and used as a residential collector road along neighborhoods to traverse to Route 3 through Lowell Road. Before the intersection was modified, you were greeted by a blinking yellow light requiring motorists to traverse the intersection, waiting for an opening in oncoming traffic. The approved growth of Lowell Road by the town increased the amount of intersections which obviously increased delays, further incentivizing and rewarding motorists to seek alternative routes. This has led to a current situation of 40,000 vehicles per day, or the equivalent of over one and a half times the population of Hudson traversing on Wason Road.

Other incentivized and rewarded drivers exploit Burns Hill which has turned both of these roads into unsafe thoroughfares plaguing our community. These let's see these incentives, I'm sorry. These incentives include ease of access to Route 3, limited police patrols, ineffective speed management, and decreased commuting times. Due to the inaction of our selectmen managing these areas the residents now experience excessive noise, unsafe roadways, reduce property values and the tragic death of a child in the prime of their life. Collectively, Hudson residents are now aware of the dangers and require an immediate long standing change to the roadway. This is in the hopes we prevent additional pain and grief of another loss in our community. As such, I would like to inquire as to the immediate and proactive fixes at your disposal to prevent another fatality. It has been revealed that Wason Road has an active off road presence in the area where children are using dirt bikes and ATVs. After a constructive meeting with our Police Chief concerning Wason Road, it was uncovered that there are no safe places for the police to monitor and manage speed and safety along the road. The road does not have ample areas for the police vehicles to turn around without jeopardizing the safety of their officers. Having a parking and turnaround area along with the wooded town, I'm sorry, having a parking and turnaround area along the wooded town owned land could prevent this issue.

Also, having an expanded parking area similar to the improvements on Musquash Road could potentially allow the public to use these areas for recreation. My meeting with the head of our highway department, now known as the Department of Public Works, was constructive concerning issues along Wason Road and the frequent vehicles crossing the center line. The topic of rumble strips or indentations in the median was brought forth. The highway department had concerns with ongoing maintenance of the rumble strips, along with the potential damage from plowing and freeze/thaw cycles during the winter. I can see the validity of ongoing maintenance costs in one hand, but I can also see the increased safety to the drivers traversing the road and potentially preventing a head on collision. All too often drivers are traversing too fast in Washington Road, which has essentially no shoulder, no drainage or area for pedestrians to safely walk. Ideally, the road would be brought to modern safety standards with a safe area for the community to walk and for drivers to be able to pull over without impeding traffic. After speaking with the Town Engineer, there were concerns over the cost of constructing a parking pad due to tree removal and backfilling and leveling the area to support vehicles. From my perspective, backfilling the area shouldn't be an excessive cost due to many excavating, excavating and construction companies giving the material from excavated foundations at little to no fee. I believe the primary cost would be from basic site work, which would be piecemeal as the Town Highway Department workflow permits.

With this being said, I found all three Department Heads view of the installation of speed feedback signs, otherwise known as radar signs permanently installed as a very good solution. These were viewed as the least expensive immediate solution reducing ongoing manpower requirements along with fulfilling the needs of the area. These signs could be funded through the Federal American Recovery Act funds and reduce financial impact to the town. This seems to be the best compromise in the near term, but it still doesn't address the safety of our officers trying to provide routine enforcement or managing vehicles wandering across the median into oncoming traffic.

Finally, I found one common thread that rang true with all three of these departments is the willingness to prevent another terrible tragedy in our community and the subsequent heartache facing families grieving the loss of a child. These individuals engineer Elvis Dhima, Highway Director Jessie Forrence and Chief of Police Tad Dionne understand the importance of keeping our community safe. I can only implore this elected body of the Board can see how the safety of the roadways in our community impacts us all. I thank you for your time and highly implore that you can collectively come together with a solution for the benefit of our community. Thank you.

Selectman Gagnon then said I have one technical question, if I may, for the gentleman here. Sir, if I may. You spoke about a parking lot or proposed parking lot. Is that on Wasson Road? Mr. Robinson replied, there is no existing parking lot on Wason Road. The town owns all of the land on the right hand side past that turn. That could be easily cut and pad installed to ensure the safety of our law enforcement officers trying to manage the volume and the speed of the vehicles. Selectman Gagnon replied, got it. I was curious where that I know exactly where you're talking about now. I have an understanding. I just lastly, thank you for talking to all the department heads. It sounds like you did a lot of work. I really appreciate you doing that and your speech tonight. I took some notes here and I'll I'll follow up on those. Mr. Robinson then asked the Board, does anyone have any other questions. The Board did not.

2) Jim Dobens, 4 Eagle Drive

Good evening. Good evening. My name is Jim Dobens, and I reside at 4 Eagle Drive in Hudson. I hope everybody had a great summer. A good fall. Weather has been fantastic. I have a simple question that does need an answer from the Board at some point. Maybe I'm a little early with it. Maybe I'm not. Doesn't the Board of Selectmen need to vote on granting sewer for the proposed Target warehouse distribution site plan that is outside our sewer district? It is, I believe, a new site plan being proposed. The Target warehouse is not essential to the town's needs and the sewer allocation provided to the Amazon site, that supposedly was based on necessity, should no longer be valid. I'd like to understand where the Board stands on this. I do understand this may be a little bit early, but I'm just calling it out. Thank you.

3) John Dubuc, 11 Eagle Drive

How are you? John Debuc I live at 11 Eagle Drive. I just want to mention this. I mentioned this at the Planning Board meeting, and I think it's important to talk to the Board of Selectmen about it also. I was looking at the 2022 Hudson masterplan survey, and a couple of things really stood out to me that I am not sure if what purview you have over and what control you have over it, but it's important to know these things so that when projects are coming in front of the town they were aware of these things were that were found out in the study. So over 70% of the residents agreed or strongly agreed that Hudson should strive to expand conservation land and increase open space. Another one was over 60% agreed that developing a defined, walkable town center that provides a sense of place and a venue to bring the community together should be a priority. For Hudson, over 75% agree that Hudson should expand its sidewalk and trail network to facilitate connections between schools, parks, conservation area and other community facilities. And this one

was very telling Close to 80% of the people that were surveyed agree that Hudson should strive to preserve the community, character and integrity of existing neighborhoods. I think these were very important things that I read about this town survey. I did take part in in the online portion of it. I think it's important to be to be part of the town and to point out these things that the residents think are important. When these projects and we're looking at how to expand and how to make the town a better place. I appreciate everyone's time tonight and have a great night. Thank you.

4) Chris Thatcher, 15 Parkhurst Drive

Name is Chris Thatcher, 15 Parkhurst Drive in Hudson. I wasn't intending to speak necessarily on one subject, but I would like to just echo what the first gentleman had said about the traffic on Wason and Burns Hill. Having lived there with my kids and walking those roads, people fly up and down there like it's no tomorrow because they're trying to race around the traffic on Lowell Road to get ahead of the traffic. I would love to see some sort of sidewalk at least discussed for Burns Hill, a part of it. I understand there's always complications. It's never as easy as simply saying I want a sidewalk. But I think after driving up and down that road hundred times and I said, Well, why couldn't you just put a sidewalk along here? You know, you work with the owners. There isn't even a sidewalk coming off Virginia Road, which is right next to this, the West Nottingham School. My son's going to go there when he starts in the next grade. And the thought of him walking even along Virginia just to the school just it's scary because of how fast people cut through Virginia as well to get on to the rest of the roadway there. The speed signs, I was actually kind of surprised when I first saw those and I was very surprised when they disappeared. I didn't realize they were temporary. But I can tell you, as someone who comes in and out of that road where one of the speed signs was located, I felt they were making an impact, mostly because I was annoved by how long it was taking a car to come down the road as they slowed down coming up to the sign. That's how I know that they were slowing down.

The other item I was pushing to just put put out there and I'm not sure this is the right place is regarding the Firemen's Memorial. We passed through there when they were having their ceremony, which was very nice to see. And it struck me that. Has the town ever considered purchasing that plot of land where that memorial is, where those houses were, and simply transforming that into a more a larger policeman memorial park as opposed to developing it into a gas station or something else? I think there's ample space there to add parking and to allow then modifications to be made to the corner intersection there where there's concerns about heavy 18 wheelers making that turn, you would be able to then shift the memorial a little farther back and in a better area and allow for more outdoor space and green space, which is what, again, is to echo what Mr. Debuc. said is kind of what people are looking for. So I just wanted to ask if the town had considered that or if it's something that this board is able to look into if it's of interest. Again, I'm not sure if that's how it works, but I would like to just throw that out there. Thank you.

Selectman Gagnon then said, just for the record, Madam Chair, if I'm understanding correctly, isn't an application already been presented for that land? Chairperson Roy replied, I'm not sure if it has. I just don't know. I I've heard that there is one, but I don't know if one was. Selectman Guessferd asked, are you talking about the corner? To which the Chairperson replied, yeah. Selectman Guessferd replied, no, it was a conceptual. There was not an actual plan that was submitted yet. Selectman Gagnon then said so the possibility of the Town having the conversation is plausible. To which Selectman Guessferd replied, yes.

Selectman McGrath then said, however, however, I happen to agree with you, I think that the town would be better served to have have ownership of that property, but it's owned by one of the developers in town and we'd have to approach him and, you know, whether or not we'd be able to come to terms. I don't, I don't know. I think that based on what I'm hearing, he's pretty pretty committed to that. Selectman Guessferd replied, that's I've heard the same thing. Yes. Selectman Gagnon replied, thank you.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS - there were none

6. <u>CONSENT ITEMS</u>

Chairperson Roy asked, does anyone have anything they'd like removed for separate consideration? Seeing nothing, <u>Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to accept</u> <u>Consent Items A, B, C, D, E & F. Carried 5-0</u>.

A. Assessing Items

1) Tax Deferral Lien Release: Map 178, Lot 13-115, 45 Mobile Drive

- B. <u>Water/Sewer Items</u> none
- C. Licenses & Permits & Policies
 - 1) Raffle Permit Hannah Dustin Quilters Guild
 - 2) Tag Day Permit The Salvation Army
 - 3) Pole Licenses- Lic. #292/21X and 292/22-2 (LTS 257/28X and 257/29-2)
- D. <u>Donations</u> none
- E. <u>Acceptance of Minutes</u>
 - 1) Minutes of October 18, 2022

F. <u>Calendar</u>

11/02 7:00 Budget Committee - Town Budget Review - Buxton Meeting Room 11/07 7:00 Budget Committee - Town Budget Review - Buxton Meeting Room 11/08 7:00am-8pm - General Election - www.hudsonnh.gov/clerk for more info 11/09 7:00 Planning Board - Buxton Meeting Room 11/10 7:00 Budget Committee - Town Budget Review - Buxton Meeting Room 11/11 Veteran's Day - Town Offices Closed 11/14 7:00 Cable Utility Committee - HCTV Meeting Room 11/14 7:00 **Conservation Commission - Buxton Meeting Room** 11/15 7:00 Municipal Utility Committee - BOS Meeting Room 11/16 6:00 Library Trustees - Hills Memorial Library Budget Committee -Town Budget Review - Buxton Meeting Room 11/16 7:00 11/17 7:00 Benson Park Committee - HCTV Meeting Room 11/17 7:00 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton Meeting Room 11/22 7:00 Budget Committee - School Budget Review - Buxton Meeting Room 11/22 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on October 25, 2022

1.) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to appoint Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector Donna Melanson to the position of Town Clerk/Tax Collector effective October 25, 2022 at her current rate of pay and benefits levels. Carried 5-0.

2) Selectman Guessferd made a motion to adjourn at 10:19 p.m. This was seconded by Selectman Morin. Carried 5-0.

B. Right to Know Policy - Town Counsel Revisions

Chairperson Roy recognized Jerry Bento, John Dubuc and Lt. McElhinney of the Right to Know Committee. Mr. Bento began their presentation saying, Thank you, Madam Chair. Good evening, members of the Board. On October 7th in September, we met in. In front of you and presented a plan. You suggested that we send it to the Town Attorney. They provided feedback. We met as a team Selectman Gagnon, Lieutenant McElhinney, Mr. Dubuc on October 17th, we went through the attorney recommendations and we have some responses and some updates based on those recommendations. The only specific issue that he referenced in his feedback was regarding town residents only and how that they can only apply for Right to Know requests. The Police Department faces that every single day. So I'm going to defer to Lieutenant McElhinney to so.

Lt. McElhinney explained, so we obviously wanted to address that and expand upon that. So which we did in our updated policy. And what we're relying on is McBurney v. Young. It's a US Supreme Court case originally out of Virginia, which allows states or 91 requests or right to know requests to only come from within the state, otherwise it would be too burdensome. And shareholders from Massachusetts aren't necessarily entitled to the same information as New Hampshire residents. So in our amendment to the policy, we added language advising that we would follow McBurney v. Young just like the state statute. And then and it would be a case by case basis. Selectman McGrath asked, what do you mean by case by case? Lt. McElhinney replied, so typically, it's a denial, but we want to leave it open for the possibility of answering requests. Sometimes we'll have like insurance companies or something that will want information and we'll typically acquiesce to that. Selectman McGrath followed up saying, well, that leads me to another question. How often would an insurance company be requesting a right to submitting a right to know request about land development? Lt. McElhinney replied, under that I don't know the answer to that, but I think that would that would allow us, though, with the current language to say, no, we're denying that based on McBurney. Does that answer your question? Selectman McGrath replied, sort of. It doesn't follow what the Town Attorney recommended. Lt. McElhinney replied, he stated, which is true, that New Hampshire does not, the Hampshire Supreme Court has not made a decision on a similar case yet. So it is kind of up in the air. We are allowed to deny out-of-state requests as it stands right now. That's across the United States, not just New Hampshire. And so typically. I think we do, because it can be very burdensome to have anybody asking for information on government activities. But I think it's important also to have the availability that if we choose to release information, we can do so. Selectman McGrath asked Lt. McElhinney do you feel comfortable with that? To which Lt. McElhinney replied, I do.

Chairperson Roy asked, so are you are you suggesting that that somebody from out of state there's an opportunity for them to, for lack of a better phrase, show cause as to why they would need why they're requesting it? Do you know what I mean? Because I understand the insurance issue, because that that can. But what if it's not an insurance issue? What if it is somebody from Tyngsborough that does have a vested interest in Planning Board activities in Hudson, New Hampshire, for instance? Lt. McElhinney replied, under McBurney, we would deny that, I think and again, it's it hasn't been challenged in New Hampshire. So and it hasn't been like I said, it's the only case law, to my knowledge, addressing that that concern across the United States. So every other state uses that as as case law. Chairperson Roy replied, okay. But and to I guess to your question about insurance, there's other insurance issues besides those with the police and fire department. Lt.

McElhinney replied, and that's just an example. To which the Chairperson replied right, right, yeah. I mean, I guess what else what else would you allow an out-of-state request? Lt. McElhinney replied, I mean, like I said, typically it's a denial. And like I said, it's got to be case by case. I can't think of the top of my head. Something we would, I mean I guess it would just be the same as with the town. It depends on what the town wants to dedicate resources to fulfilling that request for someone that doesn't live in the state. And I think that's really the spirit of McBurney, is that people live in the state, have to know where our state resources and revenues are going towards, where that where their government is spending their money, where someone in Massachusetts is not entitled to that. They don't they're not residents of the state. And that's really what McBurney kind of addressing. Chairperson Roy replied, right. And I understand that. But again, we're we're a border town. So if we have a development that say, you know, the backyard is in Tyngsborough I would presume that they would have a right to know what's going on. Lt. McElhinney replied, the US Supreme Court disagrees.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said so you're a four-person committee, correct? Did all four of you want that included in and ignoring Attorney Lefevre's recommendation? Lt. McElhinney replied, I don't necessarily think it's a yes, but I don't think we're necessarily ignoring his his recommendation. Do you have his note, exactly? Mr. Bento asked, would you like me to read it? Does that be appropriate or No? Selectman Gagnon replied, yeah, it's it's public knowledge. Lt. McElhinney said all right. The only specific issue I see has to do with revisions regarding who may legally request information. I would just comment that this is a very complex issue and far from decided. The town can certainly take the position that persons requesting information have to be citizens or residents of New Hampshire. But I would just caution everyone that this is this may not be enforceable. I think what he's referring to is, again, if someone challenges McBurney and similarly in the State Supreme Court, that might change. But again, it hasn't been challenged since I don't remember. I think it was the seventies when McBurney was decided.

Chairperson Roy replied, actually I take that a little different. I take it that some somebody, a citizen of another state, could sue the Town of Hudson in Nashua. Right? It doesn't have to go to the Supreme Court. It could go to the superior court and then and then it could go to the Supreme Court from there. But, you know? Lt. McElhinney replied, correct. I mean, the typical procedure.

Selectman Morin said I got a question. Would only makes sense. You guys made changes. Did you run it by the Attorney to make sure it met Wave is looking for? Mr. Bento replied no, we did not. Selectman Morin then said we probably should. I mean, that's his recommendation. So we should run it by our attorney because here we are having a lot of questions that we can't answer as this board. Chairperson Roy replied, I think it might be worth that while so that we can we can narrow the issues to give to an attorney that we continue the discussion. Right. So because I take that sort of a different way, I think I don't take that as he's saying that you absolutely should have it one way or the other. Right? I'm saying that's what I'm saying. Attorney Lefevre saying it's...Selectman Gagnon interjected saying it's grey. Chairperson Roy continued saying right, that this is the issues associated with what you wrote. It's not necessarily that he's recommending that you change it one way or the other. That's how I take it.

Lt. McElhinney replied, I agree. I totally agree with you. And I think that's why we rewrote it and kept it the way or rewrote it the way we have it. So we're allowing we're relying on McBurney but we're allowing us the option to fulfill those requests if something comes across that we we think is is worthwhile.

Selectman Morin then said I'd like to also make a motion that if we have any further questions before they come back, we get the attorney to review it so we don't have to keep coming back having meetings. Chairperson Roy replied, but again, if we have other questions other than what we just went over, I'd like to be able to narrow the issue exactly for Attorney Lefevre because I don't think I think you address some of them. You know, I know you and I talked about a couple of them. So I think it's worthwhile to to figure out what we want to ask Attorney Lefevre. Selectman Morin replied,

and move forward. Absolutely. Mr. Bento replied, and we're prepared to go through the remainder of his letter and come up to that end result and then present it tomorrow.

Selectman Gagnon then said I guess maybe I'll speak for myself, chime in if I'm off track here. But I think, you know, we had a really good conversation reading the attorney's letter. And my personal interpretation is, is, you know, as a lawyer, he's trying to show us the different scales of liability. Law is not black and white by any means. It's interpreted. That's why there's lawyers. And so he I think in this line he said, you know, there's a little liability because it's a little open ended at the Supreme Court level. We had, I think, very good, and we all actually disagreed on a lot of things and we had a good debate on it. And so I think the final conclusion did come out pretty well. And we had, especially from Lieutenant here, we had some examples already conducted by the Police Station. We thought, well, the Police Station was already doing this for a while, we should be in line with the town. And that's, I think, how we fell on the issue. And the wording certainly does allow for exception. So I think there's a there's a nout there if necessary.

Chairperson Roy then said cuz I also understand the balancing act. Right? Because resources. How much resources do to your point to we expend and being still being transparent? Right? Selectman Gagnon asked, should we have them keep going then on the rest of it? Chairperson Roy replied, Yeah, that's what I'm suggesting is that we go through the whole thing and then I'm, we want to narrow some issues here for attorney fees, then we can go from that.

Mr. Benton then explained, okay the Attorney. This is not always the sequence of this letter is just for my ease of reading. He mentioned simple requests, not have a policy and not have we were. We feel that there should be a policy all the time. How is implemented at the town level is the implementation phase of it. But there should be a policy on how documents are provided and requested. If someone walks up to the window and says I need X and they say oh his X and they move on, then that should be handled in a procedure that's implemented by the town employee.

Selectman Morin asked, are you talking on the right to know or any, any? Mr. Bento replied, I'm specifically talking right to no, but I think.... Selectman Morin replied, most of the departments have a procedure how paperwork or reports are given already that's I just didn't want to, we've already got that.

That's all. Mr. Bento replied, I'm not familiar with the specific policies procedures in town. Selectman Gagnon then said and for clarity to it, from what I've been told, it doesn't need to be declared as a Right to Know request. Any any request for information falls under the right to know regulations. Selectman Morin replied well, they've already got policies on it. Police have a specific policy to hand out accident or Fire Department So we've already got that. Selectman Gagnon replied and I think that's his point.

Mr. Bento continued on saying, I believe we had quite a bit of discussion on the topic of any and all requests. To back the dump truck up to the door and say, I want everything on the whole topic, whatever it is. I want to know how many cars are parked in the lot on a regular basis, that type of thing; for the last seven years. A town citizen coming into this office doesn't always know what the right thing to ask is. So they may ask for any and all, and maybe that's where the coaching comes in, that they may come in and ask for something Planning Board specific. But oh, by the way, on that particular topic, the Board of Selectmen had a discussion. The Conservation Commission had a discussion. And I'm not sure that the, we're not sure the requesting party would always know that. So the any and all kind of fits that. If you have a question on the parking lot and the Board of Selectmen had a discussion, Zoning Board and I'm out there with the requests, but without asking for it any and all, they would know that. So that's we've kind of felt that the any and all was appropriate because the citizens do not know, may not know all the particular departments or where the information may reside.

Selectman McGrath then said can I ask a question? So any request that comes in, does the person that's making the request, do they have to pay a fee for these documents that they're seeking? Mr. Bento replied, there is a fee schedule if they are copied. The town already has a fee schedule for

copying documents. If they provide an electronic device, there is no fee for that and I can't speak for what the fee schedule is. It's per page based. The Town Administrator then replied, it's a dollar for the first page or something like that, or \$0.25 for every page. So if you had to, if we had to reproduce it, photocopy it, there's a charge to do that? But if you give somebody here's a computer, go look at it or here's a stick.

Selectman McGrath replied, but I mean the person coming in not knowing that they wanted to just get Conservation Committee documents, Planning Board documents, Zoning Board documents. I mean, there's a whole bunch of, as you well know, a whole bunch of departments. If they wanted everything, but only one committee was the one that they really wanted, but they had to pay for all of the others. Don't you think that that would cause a problem for people that are not really wanting to have the dump truck backed up to the door? They want just a certain amount, but they don't know what they want. So how would you go about doing that and and getting that in the document so that people know that they're going to if they ask for everything, then the everything might be, you know, hundreds of pages of documents depending on the size of the project. You know, like Hillwood. That would be a lot of documents. It would include plans, it would include, you know, a whole bunch of different things and some of them more costly to create or copy. How would that be handled?

Selectman McGrath went on to say, I'm just kind of mumbling on here. But I understand that type of that type of unknown. And for the person that doesn't know and then gets a bill at the end of having all of those documents copied and it might be might be \$50, it might be \$100. And they thought that they were going to get out of here for \$5. Lt. McElhinney replied, I think to Jerry's point is that it becomes a training issue there where we want to make sure that people that are receiving these complaints understand that I think, like Jerry was saying, that if somebody says I want everything on X, Y and Z, that that whoever that town employee says, well, these are the available documents. Were you looking for all of these or you're just looking for these? and then having that conversation to kind of clear that up? And then again it becomes training where, all right, if you want all of these, it's looking like it's whatever, \$5, \$10. If you're just looking for the these, it'll probably be free. We'll be able to email those to you. And there's no cost for electronic transmission. So I think that's where we were saying some of these issues are going to have to be addressed also from a training perspective, from the town employees and familiarization with the policy and how to execute it.

Selectman Gagnon then said and if I may add to that quickly to about just clarification of the cost, this policy and nothing about right to know says you can charge a cost. The only allowance for costs are one for one. So if we have a cost to multiply a paper document, we can pass that cost on to the requester. But if we're providing these digitally, either through email or a USB stick, there's no cost for any of that. It's just copying.

I think you're you're, you're not, well.... the Town Administrator replied from a practical perspective, if I get a request that asks for something and somebody says I want paper before I do anything, I let them know approximately what it's going to cost. So they're walking in with their eves wide open. This is going to be \$50 if you want it. You still want it on paper? Okay, I'll do it. But you're going to know before you get it so you don't get hit with that charge that you weren't prepared for. Typically, in today's world, it's either on a stick. It can be electronically sent to somebody if it's just a couple of documents. Quite frankly, if it's one or two pages of something, here it is. We do try to work with people, but it's the voluminous request. And just to kind of step back a little bit, we've gotten requests from out of state companies. Virginia, for example, we want all your building permits for the last two years. Not going to happen. We don't have the resources to do that and we don't do it. We just let them know, sorry. And nobody's ever come back and said, we're going to sue you for that. They're just fishing for business is what they're doing. And that's not our job. Our job is to respond to the citizenry, typically the citizens of Hudson, but the residents of New Hampshire. And we will give you a heads up what we think it will cost and let you know if we're copying this, it's going to cost you. Selectman McGrath asked, so those dollars. So does that cost include the time to reproduce those? The Town Administrator replied no. Chairperson Roy said no, it's just the cost of reproduction. The Town Administrator replied, the reproduction cost assumes some sort of cost to reproduce things. So if you're thinking a dollar a page and then \$0.25 for every page afterwards, that implies

somebody standing at a copy machine doing that. But the actual getting the documents, looking for the data, that there's no cost with that, that's part of the responsibility to satisfy the request.

Selectman Guessferd then said is it okay for me to ask a question? So to your point and looking through the policy, I just want to make sure that it's very clear to the requester that the steps are going to be: you request the information, and then you go out, we go out and we get all this information, but we go to them. We go to them first before we give it to them, before we make any copies. And we say, this is what you're looking for? And then we say to them... because I can see it being a problem for somebody who really is looking for a specific piece of information. We go back to them and say, hey, you know, we got all this information on this topic. And if we don't go back to them before we copy it, then that's I think what you're really talking about is, is that we look at it and say, this is going to be, you know, this is going to be 3,000 pages of it's going to cost you this much. And then they go, Whoa, whoa, whoa, wait a minute. I'm not sure I wanted all that information. Know what I'm saying? What I'm saying, there's their process to kind of go through that? It does say that?

Selectman Gagnon replied, if I may, gentlemen, if you look at one of the attachments, there's an application. Now, I should preface this by the law says no resident needs to fill out an application, but we recommend it. if it is filled out. If you look at the I think the second page of the application or the back page, they can choose. Do they want a link to an online directory? Do they want printed physical copy? And in parentheses it says fees can apply. Do you want a digital copy provided on a town USB? Fees can apply. So it says that and hopefully when the resident's filling out the application and the town hall employee is reading it, that will spawn the conversation. Fees will apply. Oh, what fees? And this conversation will be had. Selectman Guessferd responded, right but that process, that step by step process, I don't think that's as well delineated. And yeah, the attachment does have.

Lt. McElhinney then said and address that point. I think that's more of a training issue than a something that needs to be put in policy. That's policy implementation. And again, I think in my opinion would fall under a training. Our policy doesn't specifically address that. It's just through training and experience. And again, if we're committing ourselves to transparency to government, then that's all part of that, where, hey, we're going to ask these questions and make sure we're serving whoever's asking for these documents as best we can. So I think that's more of a, in my opinion, a training issue than it is something that should be put into policy for implementation.

Mr. Dubuc then said I want to add it's more of the process of how you implement it. The policy doesn't call out how you search for a document. It doesn't call how you get where you copy the document. It's more of a someone that asks for something with the process that the town uses should be: we gather the information, we have an estimate, Oh, it's going to be around \$40 as you want to proceed. Yes, I do.

Lt. McElhinney added, and then and from a practical standpoint, we've we get requests that never get filled. I mean, rather we fill them in and nobody ever comes and picks it up. And so we're not sending out bills to people collecting the \$3 or whatever for the for the thing. So it's really not, I understand your concern, I haven't experienced an issue where that has happened. It's certainly a possibility. But again, I think that becomes a training issue.

Selectman McGrath replied, but this is dealing with other documents that you might as a police officer, you might not be familiar with. And I'm talking about planning documents, zoning documents. And you know, what a site plan looks like and how how thick is these gentlemen know? Selectman Guessferd added, 11x17, 26 pages, I mean, yeah, I mean, all kinds. Selectman McGrath replied, you should see you should have seen the documents that I had from way back in the day when they were the lifestyle center. I couldn't carry them. Somebody had to carry them for me. They were so heavy and so voluminous.

Chairperson Roy then said because you keep talking about it, who is providing the training and who is being trained? Lt. McElhinney replied, that would be town departments. that would be the department issue. That would be the department issue and a town issue. We received our training

through New Hampshire Municipal Association, and that's who we send our people through. That would be up to Fire and Town Clerks and the Administrator's office. So that that would that would have to be a town decision. Selectman McGrath then said you want to throw something at him Steve? To which the Town Administrator replied, no, no.... Chairperson Roy asked, do we have folks that have gone through that training, that NHMA training? The Town Administrator replied, well they've done the right to know training, but not specifically. You know, I'm trying to I'm trying to put it in specific terms. You know, typically you get a request, you ask for any and all documents you have in your possession. Pretty simple request turning back in. Lt. McElhinney replied, it's really not complicated. Chairperson Roy replied, no, I wouldn't, except for except for you keep bringing up that that should be part of the training and I, I haven't been to the NHMA training. Is that part of the training? Lt. McElhinney replied, which part? Chairperson Roy responded the whole idea of having the conversation, making sure they understand what they're asking for and what they're going to pay for, and all of those things. Lt. McElhinney replied they absolutely touch on it. Yeah, they actually just had a training a couple of weeks ago that we didn't get to send anybody, but they do the training a couple of times a year, so it's definitely available. The Chairperson replied okay. Okay. All right. Anybody else on this part of it? Okay.

Mr. Bento continued reviewing the list from Attorney Lefevre saying the Town Attorney also referenced native mode in the requirement of not having to do that. We feel pretty strong about native mode only because it shows all the details of a file and an email. Who received it, when they received it. And if you implement an archiving solution, it timestamps the attachments and it's easier to track. And it's easy to say if I request an email from Steve that John was copied on, that Steve forwarded to somebody else, that I see all those emails, not just the one that Steve and John were on. You see all of them. We feel pretty strong that that maintains the integrity of the documents that you're providing to the answering the right to know requests. Mr. Dubuc added, I'll also add that any privileged information, so if there was someone that was copied on it, that if the Attorney is copied on it, then that'll be redacted anyway. So anything that should be redacted, that's privileged information wouldn't be sent out even if you sent that out in native mode. So you'd be searching for that. And then you can call out any, any information that shouldn't, shouldn't go out. You can redact that information.

Selectman McGrath then said so for those people that say they forward an email and it's you see that chain of, you know, this person created the document, they forwarded it to Joe and Susie and all of that. Are you, would the expectation then be that if they responded to it, that that response was part of the the right to know request or would they have to explicitly request any responses to. I mean, it gets this really gets tricky. Mr. Dubuc replied, well, I think that the response if someone asks for I want to know about the car that was parked in the front and I sent you an email about it and you responded, that wasn't my car. Well, that's that interchange is all about the car that was parked there. So that would be all discoverable. I think to add on to what Jerry had said about the native format. A good example would be if, if you create a word document and that's sent out to everyone. So in other words, document has to the author is it has the date it was created. So things like that are in the native format. If you save that word document. So you created this document on July 1st, the word document. So the dates a July 1st document, I asked for any documents from July. Now, if you and now it's August 15th, if you save that word document as a PDF file. Now the date of that PDF file is August 15th. It's not the it's not the July 1st document anymore. It's a brand new document because you saved it in a new format. So it may be easier to read the PDF document, but that is not the document that was created and that was sent out to everyone. That's the importance about having a native, a native document. And then if you take that word document, you could change one word and save it as a PDF file. It is not the same document anymore, but you saved it in a new date and a new format with a new author. So that's the importance of having stuff in native format is the document is created as a public document. If someone asks for these documents, we give it to them in the document that was created not as a new document.

Selectman Morin asked Mr. Benton can you just refresh my memory with the attorney's comments on native? The Town Administrator replied he believes it's not required by the right to know law. He believes it is not required by the right to know law. Certainly permissible to provide. But there are a variety of issues. So he was not required. It's up to you. Chairperson Roy replied, I think I might

agree with the committee that it provides some more transparency. Selectman Morin asked, but what's it going to do to open us up? Well, we have two sides. We have to, we have to absolutely for the resident but we also got to protect our town. Chairperson Roy replied, well, as they said, anything that's protected, any any communication involves the attorney or whatever is redacted out. And they wouldn't be entitled to that as under the 91A anyways.

Selectman Morin asked, what I would request from now, when he finishes what the opinion was of the attorney and then state, what they're going to do is just so we refresh our memories.

Selectman McGrath then said so just to go on with the PDF, creating a PDF file from the original document. So you use a doc document and then you save it as a PDF file with one minor change somewhere within the document. How are you going to know exactly? I mean, is someone going to have to read both documents and do a side by side to try and figure out what's changed in document number two? Or are you going to create another file which actually shows the changes, the word changes throughout the document? So it might be just as simple as the word thee, but that's a change according to you. So, I mean, how do you differentiate that? And I mean, it's just from creating, you know, taking a doc file and creating a PDF file and it's just one word. And it may just be it may be a misspelling of somebody's name, like from Susan to Sue or whatever. Mr. Dubuc replied, so the way I would respond to that is we give both documents because they're different documents. So we have the Susan document and we have the Sue document, and they are two different documents. There's the July 1st document and the August 15 document. We give them both. Selectman McGrath asked, with no explanation of what the change was? Mr. Dubuc replied, you wouldn't, because they're asking for information about Susan. So you're given all the documents about Susan. So you called you called Susan, and Brett called her Sue. So different documents and we give them both because it was all about Sue or Susan or whoever you want to talk about.

Chairperson Roy replied, right, because I don't think we have any obligation to explain that or interpret that to the citizen. It's up to them. They requested it is up to them to read it and say, okay, it went from Sue to Susan. Selectman Guessferd added that would become a nightmare too. You talking about tracked changes. Mr. Dubuc replied, and if you give them both and they only read the Sue document, you've given them all the information they've asked for and if they only read the Sue document and didn't read the Susan document, that's not on the town, that's on the person that requested the information, that they didn't read through everything that they requested.

Selectman McGrath replied, I hear what you're saying. I'm just thinking that that's going to lead to a whole lot of other issues. You remember where I worked? Selectman Guessferd replied, so you know the documents that that I was working on that you've probably worked on. And it's you go through it and you create it one way, save it as a PDF document, and you do a word count and word change. But it takes a lot of time. Selectman Guessferd replied, I mean, I wasn't necessarily going to go there, but I think, like for me, I sign documents on behalf of the company and I never send out, I never sent out a word document, especially with my electronic signature on it, with my e-signature, because who knows if a customer or somebody else out there could take it and change it, turn it into a PDF. Now it's a different document. It looks a little different. Maybe it might a couple of words can make a huge difference. So I do get that. I do understand what you're what you're getting at there. So, you know, I think it's important to have that initial document because if the document that down the line just say to two or three different documents down the line says something different, you're protecting yourself really by that native document in my mind, because it's what you originally wrote and it's and there's a record of that. And to me, that's that's important. So that would kind of place me in the realm of going with the native document, that the source document cuz when I sign a document, I sign a letter. I want to make sure that that that represents my record that I sent out. And it happens with me all the time. And I never send out a word document to a customer.

Mr. Bento asked does anyone else have any questions on native format before we move on? Seeing none he went on to say, next item the Town Attorney referenced was the need for a public hearing to amend the policy. We feel that the policy is a citizen policy, affects the citizens of the town. And so if the policy is amended, it's appropriate to have a public hearing. I know the challenges with the public

hearing and the lack of feedback on public hearings, but I think is still a good opportunity to put it out there. Whether people take the opportunity to attend and provide feedback. We can't dictate that. But we think it's important that because it is a public document affecting the town residents directly, that it should be a public hearing before any changes. Selectman McGrath replied and I happen to agree with you.

Selectman Morin said, again I would just like to hear what why, why they're bringing it up, what the Attorney said. If you could just do what the attorney comments were each time so we can take what he said and what you're telling us back. Mr. Bento replied most definitely. Section requires to amend the policy. I do not know what the Selectmen's practice/policy is regarding amendments to its policies, but I would suggest the same practice/policy be observed with this policy as is followed by other Selectmen policies. Chairperson Roy said, so however we change town policy should just be one way. And and you and I spoke about that and, and I happen to agree with the Attorney that there should only be one sort of mechanism to do that. It would get far too confusing to have it one way for this policy and another way for that policy. And, you know.

Mr. Bento then asked, I just have a question not being familiar with all the town policies or many of them, is there a what I would consider a public facing policy like this one and internal policies that govern the town? How were those handled? The Town Administrator replied, there's just policies. You have Town Code which requires by law public hearings. That's Town Code. But if it's a policy of the Board of Selectmen or have been adopted by the Board of Selectmen, I'm not aware that you do any public hearings on them. Chairperson Roy then asked, but it has to be an agenda item? The Town Administrator replied it would have to be a public agenda item. So from that perspective would be on an agenda. Presumably if somebody saw it on the agenda was motivated, they could come in and come into public input. But typically there hasn't been public hearings, formal public hearings, such as you would have to amend Town Code, I'll put it that way. Town Code specifies and requires public hearings or public hearing depends on which part of the code you're changing. Policies it's the Board of Selectmen's policy. So it's up to the board to typically do it, not typically, to do it on an agenda that's publicized.

Selectman Gagnon then said and I think, you know, we had a long discussion about this as well. And I think to add to I agree with the Committee, you know, this policy specifically, I get it. We don't want to have a bunch of positives, all different reasons, totally get it. Internal policies can generally be grouped together. They help department heads and their departments run. This one specifically, I think stands out because indeed it gives the residents some power and knowledge. And if you were to get a malicious Board of Selectmen at some point and say this, this holds us back or this is annoying to us and they want to go change it and downgrade it, I guess they could and they could do it in potentially a quiet way. You have to have a meeting, I guess, but the public hearing just allows that option to the residents to truly feel like they have a seat at the table legitimately before their rights are changed. I think that's why this one stood out. And we really wanted to make sure that the public hearing was was kind of highlighted versus just public input. So residents really felt like it was it was part of their policy.

Chairperson Roy then said Mr. Guessferd did you have; did you have a comment? I've got just a thought. This is kind of I'll agree, this is kind of unique. And the reason that this all came up was because of a court case. To me, that's the only to me, that's the only compelling reason to change. To be different than the other town policies is this was this was very visible. This was something this was very much out there. On the one hand, I do agree that we should have all policies should pretty much follow the same procedure. From my perspective, if there's a way we can at least I don't know use the same procedure, but invite, I guess, or have some level of public and again, public input would be a public hearing. But I'm just I'm kind of torn about it. Chairperson Roy replied saying yeah, so so one of the ideas that maybe comes to mind sort of I don't know if anybody's seen how the School Board reviews policy. They have what's called a first read. So it goes on an agenda. It's passed out with that item and then they don't discuss it or anything until the following meeting where again, it's an agenda item and it's on there. I mean, maybe that's a compromise. So that's not all

done. Like you don't come and say, Hey, I think we should just eliminate this, you know? And then that same night we like, Oh, okay, let's do that.

Selectman Guessferd replied, yeah. And that's kind of where I'm coming from is, is that, that, that the public at least know that there's a change in the offing and maybe that two-week period gives them a chance to to contact us like they do for other matters. And then that next meeting we decide what we're going to do. So I would, I would be okay with that so as to satisfy the need for the public to feel you know that this isn't going to just get pushed under the rug or away from them, but at the same time to not overly complicate, you know, the the the procedures of the Select Board.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said sorry, and this isn't a discussion for tonight because we're going to talk about this again. But if we're going to do it for one, shouldn't we just do it for all? Chairperson Roy replied and that's a very good, I actually.... Selectman Guessferd said that's the extension.

Chairperson Roy then said cuz I think that's very prudent. Right? Cuz it gives you time to to read it and then we can discuss it at the next meeting and then make a decision. Selectman Gagnon then said and so I think that conversation would be fabulous to have, I'm really interested in that. But constructive criticism, you just said, let's have to like School Board, let's have first read and the second read. That's two meetings with potential public input. All due respect, how would that differ from from from a public hearing? Isn't it almost the exact same procedure? Chairperson Roy replied. well there's no noticing. Selectman Guessferd added, it's not. It's not the same. The Chairperson agreed saying yeah, it's the notice requirements. Selectman Guessferd added, it does allow for the public just like anything else. Anything else we do, we get public input. We all get emails from from citizens that are concerned about things that are people that are paying attention and and they and they want to have an input. There's not necessarily a public hearing on those on a lot of those matters, but there are opportunities to contact us. And we're always saying contact us, tell us what's going on, what you like, what you don't like. Public input in a meeting that's not a public hearing. Selectman Gagnon replied, yeah, I think the difference there is, you know, the people need to be proactive in knowing what we're doing and then come to the public input, which they should be. I totally agree. But the step a step beyond what the public hearing is we be proactive and we put a public notice saying, hey, just heads up the people who don't pay attention. We are talking about this policy if you want input. And I think that added step I tend to think is worthwhile. Selectman Guessferd replied, well, the only thing is, again, if we do it for one, are we going to do it for all? Chairperson Roy asked are we gonna do it for all the policies? Selectman Guessferd continued saying, here we are just in gridlock. With every policy we have, we never get any business done. Selectman Gagnon responded, yeah, and I don't I don't think needs to be applied to all, but anyway.

Selectman Morin then said and to your thing. How many people do we get at public hearings? We put on our agenda for every meeting a week in advance. It's kind of the same thing, other than it's not an official...Chairperson Roy said public hearing. To which Selectman Morin replied, right. Selectman Gagnon then replied, valid point, valid point. The Chair said I just think as a compromise that first read, second read is, may be a good compromise for that. How you folks feel about that. Mr. Bento replied, I think that I like that idea. I guess I would like to see more people participating. To which the Chair replied I'm on board with it, Mr. Bento. I'm on board with you. Mr. Bento then said you know, quite honestly, I've looked at agendas over the years, but have paid a lot more attention the last 3 to 4. But I think first reading, second reading would get it out there and be more public than possibly today.

Mr. Bento continued on with the review of Attorney Lefevre's suggestions for the proposed Right to Know Policy saying a couple of different times in the the attorney referenced the policy being lengthy. He also referenced some items regarding definitions and things like that. So I'm going to summarize those all in one under the size of the document. We did reduce and remove some information from the purpose section, the obtaining public information section. We reduce the amount of legal definitions, note sections we removed or moved, move them into the body of the policy. And the Committee feels strongly that the policy today, with the adjustments that the Town Attorney may make in the beginning, excuse me, on that other item, the policy today is the correct size, has the correct information in it, the right amount of information, and that the size of the policy does not necessarily dictate the value of the policy. But we're very comfortable with, we spend a lot of time going through duplicate items, removing items, making sure that we were clear, and we did reduce the size of this. And that was a good undertaking. We feel very good about that. None of us compromise said, aww well, because of this, we agreed that these were the items that we should be thinning down, so to speak.

Selectman Gagnon then said the meat of the policy is only six pages. Selectman Guessferd replied, right. There's a lot of pages, but there's a lot of attachments and yeah. Selectman Gagnon replied, and even still, I think even the law itself is repetitive. Chairperson Roy added, I think that it's important, regardless of the length that all of the information that the public needs to know is in the document. Right? You know, so if it had to be 12 pages, kind of so be it. If it if that's what it took to cover all the material. Mr. Bento replied, and where we may have taken some items out, specifically definitions, we provide a link to the RSA where those definitions exist so that someone, if they're so inclined, can go to the RSA and find those definitions. Excuse me.

Mr. Bento wrapped up saying, so that ends the talking points on the Attorney's portion of it. We still, after the adoption, we still have the recommendations. Not sure if you want me to go back through those again tonight that we provided last week, one of them a couple of weeks ago. One of them implement the email archiving system. Mr. Beike, at the October 18th budget presentation to the Board of Selectmen indicated the archiving solution will cost about \$13,000 for the first year and \$2,500 for every year after that. Chairperson Roy replied yeah, we did that. Selectman Gagnon added yeah, so we've taken care of that, sir. The Town Administrator said in the budget. For the budget for next year and the Board put that amount of money in.

Mr. Bento replied, okay. So moving on to the second recommendation, in lieu of waiting for that to be implemented, which is a way away. The Committee would recommend that you remove email quotas right away, from all employees so that they're not not out there on Monday morning or whatever day they get the warning that they've exceeded a quota, deleting emails to reduce their mailbox size. Mailbox size, people stopped receiving emails, can't send emails. And I think, we feel, it opens the town up to a potential liability if someone deletes an email by accident that they shouldn't have deleted. And by removing those quotas right away. There is a cost to it. And Mr. Beike will have to indicate what the increased cost for additional disk space requirements will be going forward for that.

Selectman Morin replied, I have no problem with that. But I think we need to have all our employees notified and explain to them what is going on before this happens. Selectman Guessferd replied, absolutely. Selectman Morin continued saying, before this takes effect, because, again, they have the right to know why and things. So before that gets done, there must be and everybody must complete it before it's done. Selectman Guessferd replied saying yeah, I agree. I agree that they all need to know. Yeah. My big concern is cost is just how much more space are we going to need and how what's that going to cost? So it may not be that expensive and in the end, but. Mr. Bento replied but it would be the cost from now until next July 1st or whenever the implementation of the email archiving system is.

Selectman McGrath then said well, that's provided that we don't have another default budget to work with. Selectman Guessferd then said I mean, that cost would come within our current budget this year. We'd have to find a place for it. But our current default budget. Selectman Gagnon then said to Selectman McGrath's point, gentlemen, I implore you to educate the public that that this are important work that we have done. We've put it in our 2024 budget. So we would really like to pass that budget because it is we've worked very hard on it and include very important things like this. Chairperson Roy replied, actually, I would implore some of you to go to tomorrow night's budget meeting and talk about this in their public input session. Selectman Guessferd agreed saying, yes. The next two meetings over there. right? Mr. Bento asked, the town is on tomorrow night? To which the Chair replied yes. Yes, we're up first.

Mr. Bento then said the other items that we mentioned last week was having a frequently asked questions page for the citizens. Where do you go for your own information? Make it a self-serve. If you're interested in this, as I, I have some troubles going to Planning because you've got to dig into this and that. I'm sure I'm not the only one that has those similar things. Training for employees. Once the policy is approved and implement a policy where all elected officials have town email, can only use town email. The Chairperson replied, I would refer that question to Mr. Lefevre because as much as I agree with you, I'm not sure that we can that that would be enforceable. So I just want the question asked to to the Town Council before before we made that any kind of policy.

Mr. Benton then said, so I want to thank the members of the board of the Committee today myself, Mr. Dubuc, Ms. Nicolas, who was on previously town employees Lieutenant McElhinney, Judge Tessier, Mr. Malizia and his team provided input and of course, the elected officials. Selectman Gagnon. Developing this policy and getting us to this point. I'd like to thank everybody for that. Chairperson Roy replied, I want to thank all of you for all the hard work. I know how much it takes to develop a policy from the ground up, so I know how much work this was. I really do appreciate it.

Mr. Bento replied, just to follow up, make sure that I have correct notes, because I'm not a good note taker. We're following up on the specific issue with the Town Attorney on the town resident requirement. Is there any other follow up that anyone would? Well, the native format, just to get a more specific read from him about his concerns with native format and what are there any concerns about liability connected to that? Selectman Guessferd agreed saying, right. Because I think I'm in favor of native format. Selectman Morin replied I am too. But let's just cover ourselves. Selectman Guessferd replied, exactly.

Mr. Dubuc then said, I think I want to add something in the native format to if we're talking about word and PDF documents. And that's simple to say. Selectman Guessferd said you can edit a PDF document. Mr. Dubuc replied, I know I never send a word document either, but something that you can do, you can take an email and you can print emails as PDFs and give that as a right to no request. So now any attachments for the emails you don't have any. You don't have the BKS. If you print it out and it's sent to 14 people, you only capture the first seven addresses that are in the address line so you don't know who it went to. So I think that's that's more that's more about native format is the emails. You know if you create a word document and then you save it as a PDF and that gets sent out to the whole board well the PDF is actually the documents or PDFs, you've totally lost every attachment. Every CC, every BCC, the entire address list it was sent to, you have no idea who it was sent to you. I think that's that's the biggest thing about is to make it a little clear. I think the doc and PDF made it a little bit. Well, it's not a big deal, but the emails are a bigger deal.

Selectman Morin added just to make it clear, I think you've got the support. We just want to make sure on our side, that's all. Mr. Dubuc replied, yes, sir. And I just wanted to expand a little bit on on that. Thank you.

Mr. Bento went on to say and the third thing we're going to do as a Committee is rework the section on the public hearing with reference to the two readings and coming to the Board. If anyone thinks of anything else, please email us. We'll follow up. And I'll follow up tomorrow morning with Mr. Malizia on getting with the Town Attorney. Then we'll go our next steps for guidance. For the next steps from yourselves. Chairperson Roy replied, Again, thank you very much for all of your time.

8. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

A. Health Officer Appointment - HFD

The Town Administrator was recognized and said, so with the promotion of the Fire Chief Deputy to the Fire Chief, we now need to designate him as the Health Officer. It's part of the job description. The former chief was the designated health officer. Chief Tice served as Deputy Health Officer for many years. So he had the appropriate training. So part of the job description is he is the Health Officer for the town of Hudson. So I think you should make <u>a motion to appoint Fire Chief</u> <u>Scott Tice to the role of Health Officer for the Town of Hudson, New Hampshire, as outlined in the</u> <u>JOBD-1 Fire Chief. Selectman McGrath made this motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried</u> <u>5-0.</u>

B. Emergency Management Director - HFD

The Town Administrator was again recognized and explained, another item here regarding the Emergency Management Director, again, as designated in the job description, the Fire Chief is designated as the Emergency Management Director. Former Chief Buxton was the Emergency Management Director. Deputy Tice obviously served under him, so as part of the job description, he is the Emergency Management Director, so I would recommend you make <u>a motion</u> to appoint Fire Chief Scott Tice to the role of Emergency Management Director for the town of Hudson, as outlined in the job description. JOBD-1 Fire Chief. Selectman McGrath made this motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 5-0.

C. NHDES Water System Sustainability Grant Application

Chairperson Roy recognized Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Mr. Dhima began saying, Thank you, Chairperson Roy. Good evening, everyone. As you probably remember, Town of Hudson recently got a \$100,000 grant from the state. This is ARPA funds they're getting from the feds that they the managing. So we secured 100 grand out of the 100 grand. \$10,000 was related to lead and copper service which is required by EPA. A municipality or a water system of our sizes. It appears to be capable to get in up to \$50,000 grant for lead and copper services. So in front of you tonight to move forward with applying for another grant to get an additional \$40,000 related to our lead and copper service inventory that we need to do in a couple of years. So with that said, I'll take any questions you might have.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said I mean; I know the hazards of lead. Can you give me a quick overview what's what's the copper? Mr. Dhima replied it's lead and copper. It's called the lead and copper service. Most of our services are copper, but it's basically the inventory of everything you have out there that might be harmful to to people. And that includes basically the connection from the main to the curb stop, from the curb stop, to the house. What we typically do now is we take pictures of everything, we document the distances, locations, materials, diameters. Back in the old days when they first start doing this, they didn't do it. They had some ties. It's the same template over and over again. So what this is going to allow us to do is this funds hopefully go out there and do the do the inventory of things we don't have information of. And that and to your point, the theme is figure out if you have any led out there or not. Selectman Gagnon asked so it's just lead that? Mr. Dhima replied, yes just lead. Copper is safe. Yes, they called it lead and copper service inventory. I don't know why, but it's the lead that they're there that they're really worried about. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay thank you. Seeing no further questions from the Board, *Selectman McGrath made a motion*. *seconded by Selectman Gagnon to authorize the Town Engineer to apply for the Water System Sustainability Grant Program. Carried 5-0*.

D. American Rescue Plan Act Update

Chairperson Roy recognized the Town Administrator for an update on the American Rescue Plan Act. The Town Administrator began by saying, so as you all well aware, we have received all of the funding, \$2,682,044.10 in American Rescue Plan funds. We received two different funds, two different checks. We received one in '21, we receive one in '22. August of each year. There is a list of projects that had gone through the Committee. It came to the Board. The Board approved Flagstone Drive drainage replacement project, which is complete, has been complete for quite some time; under budget. We did the West Road Transfer Station, which we had an estimate for which the project or the bids came in higher, basically because of the cost of material and the way things have gone. Basically that's essentially complete that we've withheld \$5,000 just to make sure the paving gets.

Chairperson Roy then said can I just ask a quick question? The overage of. \$2,774.80. does that include the 5K? The Town Administrator replied, yes. That's everything. So, again, when you're doing paving estimates, you're trying to get close, but we're fairly close. So we're holding back \$5,000 in payment until next spring. Make sure things weather and there's a couple of little spots they have to kind of clean up. But for all who've been there, you've seen the benefit of that project and you've seen everything. So that's a success and basically, basically complete. We have the Lowell Road Bridge culvert project, which is sort of near what Central Street is. That's the culvert. It's actually designated as a bridge because of the length. That's Mr. Dhima's managing that project. We've been in the engineering phase, construction phase. This has been put out to bid. Bids are due November 10th, most likely construction starting next spring, I would assume. Typically, it's a spring time. At this point in time, it looks like we might get some favorability on that one, but we'll wait and see what the bids look like. So \$700,000 was allocated for that. We spent about \$41,000. It's basically been the design phase that's taken that much time. The Taylor Falls Veterans Memorial Bridge rehabilitation. We had originally budgeted \$475,000. This was a 50/50 share with the city of Nashua. We're going to be getting funding from NHDOT the Bridge project. And we're also getting different federal funding for this bridge project. So it appears at this point in time we're not going to need to spend any of the ARPA funds on that project. The Town Administrator went on to say, so based on the information the engineer has brought forward, so that frees up \$475,000 of funds that we had designated for this project. The last final project you approved expanding \$77,165 to complete the Seagrave Fire Apparatus That is complete. We've received the vehicle, the truck, the engine. So that's here.

The Town Administrator went on to explain, so basically we allocated \$2,495,100 for projects. We spent \$1,257,840.43, leaving a balance of \$1,237,259.57. Of that balance if you look at if you had the Lowell Road, I mean, pardon me, the bridges, and then we'd have \$186,944. But because we're not doing the bridge project there appears to be \$661,994 available for other projects. So what you might want to consider is reconvening or having the Committee meet again to look at either the list of projects that were secondary that weren't forwarded. I'm not sure if you want to solicit other projects. It's entirely up to the Board, but I think you need to have the Committee look at the projects to make recommendations.

Chairperson Roy then said so that was actually going to be my suggestion that we reconvene the Committee. Selectman Guessferd asked, is there a limitation on time to spend the money?

The Town Administrator replied, I believe we had a couple, I want to say we're a few years out. The Chairperson replied, I want to say 2026. It was like FY26. The Town Administrator said yeah, it's a few years out. It's not imminent. The Chairperson agreed saying, it's not imminent.

The Town Administrator then said so we had talked about doing something at the Community Center. There's a, there's actually an RFP out to get quote for that to do the whole air handling, air conditioning, all of that. That was, I think, one of the next projects on the list. But we should look at the whole list to see what was out there. Selectman Morin replied, we still had some items left on the list that. Selectman Guessferd said right, the Committee is going to reconvene. Chairperson Roy agreed saying right, right. that's what I would suggest, is that the Committee reconvenes. The Town Administrator added, to make recommendations to this Board. Chairperson Roy went on to say, I think the first is to Mr. Malizia's point, whether you're gonna just look at the projects that have already been presented or if you're going to open it up to to other other projects. Selectman Morin asked, can we call the Town Engineer up and see if anything is new that needed to be added? The Chairperson replied, well, if you're going to open it up, I would like to present a project, but. Selectman Morin replied, I'm just...all right. So instead of him telling us project, is there anything that is come forward without telling us what it is that way? Should we open it up? How about that? Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima came forward and said yeah I mean, as I told Mr. Forrence before this meeting I will let the Board know that all the money's being spoken for. There is plenty of drainage projects we have identified already. The question will become, is anything on the list already there needs to be done prior to this projects that we need and that'll be up to the Committee to decide. I will say on Mr. Forrence and myself behalf that the Board to consider to add someone from Public Works and Engineering to this Committee as well, to make sure that you get in all the parts. But there is plenty to be done in this town if the Board wishes to add to the list out, I'll say that much.

Chairperson Roy replied, I'd be reluctant to change the composition of the Committee. That would just be my thought initially. But. Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I just, I have a question, and it's probably going to get shot down as soon as I get the words out of my mouth. But could those additional funds be used to purchase property? Chairperson Roy replied so that's a really good question. I don't know the answer to it. And again, that would be a project to be presented to the Committee. And again, I don't. The Town Administrator added, I don't believe the American Rescue, I'm not aware that it's to purchase land. I mean it's definitely infrastructure. Selectman McGrath replied but it might be to save the Town. A project that is not really conducive to the community. Selectman Morin replied, it's not an improvement. It's an addition. Selectman McGrath replied it might be an improvement over (inaudible). Chairperson Roy replied, I think so, so honestly, if if we could reach out to our point of contact. I know that was a point of contact that the Fire Chief was using to ask questions like that. That's where we get the answer to the Seagrave question. it's worth asking the question. Right? The Town Administrator replied, I will say \$661,000 does not go as far as it used to go. Chairperson Roy replied, I know that would be the problem. The Town Administrator said it sounds like it's a lot of money to all of us. But when you get into the realm of these project types of things, it goes very quickly.

Selectman Gagnon then said, and sorry, if I may, I'm just looking at the emails from our meeting to remind myself a couple of questions while I have Mr. Dhima here and to remind us here. The Marsh Booster Station project. That's complete, right? We did that in different way? Mr. Dhima replied, the Marsh Road Booster Station is funded by the water budget. Selectman Gagnon asked, okay, but has that been upgraded? That was on our... I have a list here of what we talked about. Is that complete or complete? Mr. Dhima replied, that one was not identified as part of the ARPA. Yeah. So that's being done through a three-year process. Right now we're purchasing the pumps, we're going to get the building and then the third year will be putting everything together. The Town Administrator added, it was identified, it wasn't appropriated from the ARPA funds. In essence what we're doing is we've taken a three-year approach to do it to the water budget, which we've done one or two phases already. So we're somewhat through that.

Selectman Gagnon replied, okay, so that was my, I'm getting that off my list. So what's left here is that what projects that weren't complete that we talked about already. Electronic polling books. I know we got some of them maybe more are needed. Gas and diesel tanks. I believe upgrading those. Is that here in town? The Town Administrator replied, those are over at the Public Works facility. Selectman Gagnon replied I don't think that's been touched. Right? So that's on the table still. The Town Administrator added the improvements at the Community Center haven't been touched yet. Selectman Gagnon continue saying, Town Hall HVAC we had. Radio communication, water infrastructure. I think we upgraded that already. Mr. Dhima replied, so that's in the works. That's being taken care of by the water budget.

Selectman Gagnon continued reading his list saying then HVAC for the Community Center is, was on our list. Chairperson Roy replied, right. And that's and that's at this point my understanding, it's

scheduled to be done through the.... The Town Administrator replied doesn't have to be. We haven't scheduled how to do it at all. We don't know what the scope of the project is yet, but it's. Mr. Dhima replied, it's out to bid though. The Town Administrator added, it may be more expensive than that fund could handle.

Selectman Gagnon replied, okay and then we have, as you said, HVAC Community Center, Community Center generator, Fire Department EMS equipment. I think Mr. Buxton was talking about a specialty lift, which again didn't get put on, but we talked about it. and then increasing the bandwidth for Town Hall's IT Department. So just want to give some ideas. Those are ideas we've already talked about. So obviously we should probably put those in play first before we add new ones. But obviously we can think about new ones. The Town Administrator replied, one would presume that the Committee would review all of that, hear from various departments to see what the need still is and if there's more or less money left, the Committee would come with a recommendation to the board to say, Hey, we've identified \$800,000 worth of project, this is our ranking. Or conversely, we've identified \$300,000 worth of projects. Do you want to solicit another \$300,000 from somewhere? I think we have to look at that work first. Selectman Morin asked, do you need emotion or what do you? Chairperson Roy replied, I don't know if we need the emotion to reconvene because the Committee was never disbanded. Selectman Morin replied, no, but to open it back up. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to reconvene the ARPA Committee. Selectman Gagnon said, One question. So obviously, Mr. Buxton, Chief Buxton, as it was led that meeting and was really our leader, he's no longer here. Are we going to just simply replace him with with Mr. Tice? Chairperson Roy replied, I will actually leave that up to Mr. Malizia to decide who will. The Town Administrator replied, I've got to see who was on the Committee in the first place. Chairperson Roy jokingly said I can remind you after. To which the Town Administrator replied, I think I know who was on, but I got a look at everybody. We may or may not need to do that. No offensive. It's just he that's kind of more in tune to it. But we may be able to get by with the folks that we have. Chairperson Roy then said okay, so again. I'll just let him (the Town Administrator) figure that out. Any other discussion? Seeing no further discussion, a vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

9. Board Liaison Reports

Chairperson Roy explained, it's only been a week since our last meeting. Not sure how much has happened as far as meetings go. But I will go around the room.

Selectman McGrath: I have nothing.

<u>Selectman Morin</u>: Budget meetings on the Town budget with the Budget Committee, start tomorrow night 7:00p.m. Chairperson Roy replied, alright, I'll see you there. The Town Administrator replied he stole my one item. Chairperson Roy replied, no we can say it multiple times. Encourage public participation, right?

<u>Selectman Guessferd</u>: Let's see. Not too much. Well, Planning Board is going to be meeting next week. We'll be meeting at the Community Center again. Hillwood is on the agenda. So encourage citizens to come out as far as anything else. Let me see. Rec Department- I made some comments last week. It looks like things are pretty much the same. The soccer season finally came to an end on Saturday. Everything was great. Basketball is beginning. The Senior program has been going well. There's a trip tomorrow to see Bill Connors as Elton John for the Seniors tomorrow. So good trip for them. Comedy show's coming up, if you haven't gotten your tickets, I know there's not too many left, so get out there and get your tickets to the comedy show on the 12th, which is a week and a half away. It's a lot of fun. Those comedy shows I've been to before. They're excellent. And Fright Night Again was very successful, and it sounds like it's something we're going to continue to do moving forward. Hasn't been any other activity on the on the cable committee. So I think that's it.

Selectman Gagnon: no ma'am none tonight.

<u>Chairperson Roy</u>: Okay. So the ZBA did meet. They heard one case and then they published the final revisions to their bylaws. So those are out. I'm presuming they're on the website, although I haven't checked. So that's all I have as far as liaison reports.

10. Remarks by Town Administrator

The Town Administrator was recognized and said Yeah, unfortunately, he stole my thunder, but the Budget Committee will be starting tomorrow night. So tomorrow night, next week it'll be Monday and Thursday. So those will all be publicized. You can come and I believe they're in the Buxton room. That's for the Fiscal Year '24 budget, which is for July 1st, 2023 through June 30th, 2024. So we're hot and heavy doing that.

11. Remarks by School Board - no School Board member present this evening.

12. Other Business/Remarks by the Selectmen

Selectman McGrath: no.

Selectman Morin: I got nothing.

Selectman Guessferd: I hope everybody had a great Halloween.

Selectman Gagnon: No, no more remarks. Thank you.

<u>Chairperson Roy</u>: Okay, so I'll just be the third person. The Budget Committee starts their budget process tomorrow night. They do have public input, so if you want to be heard, as far as the budget goes, your thoughts on it. Please show up in the Buxton Room tomorrow night at 7:00p.m. and let them know what you think. That's all I have.

13. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Selectman Gagnon at 8:33 p.m., seconded by Selectman Guessferd to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (I) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

Nonpublic Session was entered at 8:33 p.m. thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public was asked to leave the room.

The Board entered open session at 8:49 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session

1.) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to seal the minutes of the first nonpublic session held during the 10/25/22 Board of Selectmen meeting. Carried 4-0-1. Selectman McGrath abstained.

2.) Selectman Morin made a motion to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. This was seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 5-0.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.by Selectman Guessferd seconded by Selectman Morin. Carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant.

Kara Roy, Chairperson

Bob Guessferd, Vice Chairman

David Morin, Selectman

Marilyn McGrath, Selectman

Brett Gagnon, Selectmen





Presented by: Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee

Presented to: Hudson Board of Selectmen

Hudson Community Power will allow the Town to provide energy supply and related services on behalf of Hudson's residents and businesses.

Community Power programs create an economy of scale that can result in more affordable electricity and expanded options for renewables and innovative energy technologies.


1. Review Current State of Affairs

- a) HEAC
- b) CPCNH
- 2. Results from the 11/15/22 Public Hearing
- 3. Warrant Article Discussion
- 4. Questions & Discussion



1a. Review Current State of Affairs (HEAC)

- ✓ It was clear from the discussions that most of the Selectmen were uncomfortable with the opt-out nature of the draft Electric Aggregation Plan (EAP).
- ✓ There were three clear takeaways for the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee (HEAC) to address:
 - 1. A desire to better understand demonstrated cost-savings from similar programs in other markets;
 - 2. More information on the success rates of opt-out vs. opt-in plans; and
 - 3. A desire to ensure that every effort was taken to engage and inform the public about this potential program.

#1: A desire to better understand demonstrated cost-savings from similar programs in other markets.

✓ On 10/5/22 Henry Herndon provided the following to the BOS:

As requested, I am sharing the <u>results of a study</u> conducted in Massachusetts comparing Community Power rates to Utility Default rates. (Note: In Massachusetts, they call the program "Community Choice Energy" -- it's the same as "Community Power"). The study documents an **average supply rate savings of 12.6% for residential customers** and **11.2% for small commercial customers**.

✓ We acknowledge that the referenced study is for communities in a different state and so the results are not directly comparable, but the utility involved is still Eversource and so the data should at least be similar.

#1: (cont.)

✓ A second datapoint is the recent (7/12/22) announcement from Cambridge Community Electricity (CCE). CCE is a City-run program that provides Cambridge, MA residents & business with an alternative to Eversource's Basic Service for electricity supply – so essentially what Hudson Community Power would be doing.

"<u>Cambridge's 100% Renewable Energy Option Now More Affordable than</u> <u>Eversource Basic Service</u>"

"Over 33,000 households and 4,950 businesses participate in the CCE program. CCE customers have saved over \$15M since the start of the program in 2017."

#2: More information on the success rates of opt-out vs. opt-in plans.

- ✓ I asked Clifton Below if he could supply any data on this subject. His response is on the next slide.
- Clifton Below is the Board Chair of Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire. Clifton is the prime author of the Community Power Law (NH RSA 53-E, 2019) and co-authored and sponsored the nation's first Electric Utility Restructuring Act (NH RSA 374-F, 1996). He is also a former NH PUC commissioner, a former NH State Representative & State Senator, and is the Assistant Mayor and a City Councilor in Lebanon, NH.

#2: (cont.)

"I [can] report that **there are no known cases of a municipal electric aggregation launching on only an opt-in basis**, though there have commonly been opt-in or opt-up options beyond a lower than utility cost basic opt-out service option. **NH's municipal aggregation law sat dormant and unused for 24 years because it only allowed opt-in launches**, per an amendment to the bill sponsored by then Rep. Jeb Bradley. In 2019, now Sen. Bradley, poised to become the next Republican Senate President, co-sponsored the **bill to enable launching on an opt-out basis due to the historic success of that approach**. **Opt-out launches typically end up serving 90% to 95% or more of utility default service. Opt-in campaigns by 3rd party suppliers serving residential [customers] have maybe garnered 5% participation."** [Emphasis added.]

On a related note, NHPR published an article on 11/15/22 entitled "Eversource begins setting new rates, saying it's in an unprecedented position". In the article it is stated that **about 84% of Eversource's residential customers are on default energy service.** The specific percentage may be different for Hudson; we'll have updated data from Eversource on that by 12/15/22.

#3: A desire to ensure that every effort was taken to engage and inform the public about this potential program.

- In communications with Hudson government officials after the workshop, I listed several ways the HEAC plans to communicate with town residents about the program. They include:
 - ✓ The Get Tech Smart program on HCTV (to be recorded on 12/5/22)
 - ✓ Public hearings (11/15/22 completed; 1/17/23 is planned) & information sessions
 - Additional HCTV broadcasts & signage in the interstitials (done for the 11/15 hearing)
 - Physical signage around town (bulletin boards, etc.)
 - Information booths at town events (Old Home Days was done this past summer)
 - Presenting to organizations such as: Rotary, Lions, VFW, Senior Center, etc.
- ✓ As of 11/17/22, CPCNH has contracted with a Public Engagement Consultant, Sam Evans Brown of Clean Energy NH (and formerly NHPR, who will support Hudson public engagement planning / outreach

After the 10/4/22 Workshop

✓ On 10/21/22 in response to a query by me regarding public noticing for the planned 11/15/22 public hearing, the HEAC was asked to stop preparations for that event.

- ✓ After some additional email communication, it became apparent that there was the impression that the HEAC intended to conduct the planned hearing under the guise of the Board of Selectmen which was not the case.
- ✓ The issue was resolved by clarifying that the 11/15/22 hearing would be sponsored by the Sustainability Committee – and advertising it as such.
- ✓ The HEAC then put back into place plans to advertise the hearing. Other public outreach efforts (such as recording a Get Tech Smart show) were rescheduled.
- ✓ Given the number of attendees at the 11/15/22 public hearing (14), it appears even the curtailed outreach that we did was successful.



1b. Review Current State of Affairs (CPCNH)

CPCNH Update

- CPCNH continues to grow. The member count is now up to 22 municipalities and one county. 30+ additional communities have expressed interest in joining.
- A substantial effort is underway to prepare, review, and vote on four important documents:
 - Cost Sharing Agreement
 - Energy Portfolio Risk Management Policy
 - Rate Setting Policy
 - Financial Reserve Policy
- These policies would affect Hudson only if:
 - HCP comes into existence (e.g., a warrant article is approved, and the BOS decides to stand up HCP), and
 - The BOS decides that HCP should partner with CPCNH for power procurement and related services.





2. Results from the November 15 Public Hearing

Results from the 11/15/22 Public Hearing

✓ Strong turnout for the hearing; 14 members of the public attended.

- ✓ Several clarifying questions were asked and answered as the presentation progressed. For example:
 - ✓ Is it really zero tax impact or not?
 - ✓ How would billing be handled?
 - ✓ What effect would this have on those that have installed solar panels, e.g., on net-metering?

✓ Overall, the draft Electric Aggregation Plan was well-received.



3. Warrant Article Discussion

Warrant Article Discussion

✓ Most of the discussion at the end of the hearing was focused on the proposed variations of warrant articles.

The consensus seemed to be:

✓ Do not attempt to use the linked/chained warrant articles – it's too confusing.

✓ Keep the text as simple as you can, but as informative as you can.

Stick to just asking if the EAP can be approved as it is in the current draft – using the opt-out enrollment mechanism.

✓ Bottom line: Attendees expressed support and encouragement to proceed with single "opt-out" warrant article with concise explanation of the program. No one expressed any reservations about presenting an opt-out-based enrollment plan at Town Meeting.

Suggested "Opt-out" Warrant Article

"To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Hudson Community Power Plan, finalized [INSERT DATE] by the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee, and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to develop and implement Hudson Community Power, and to take all action in furtherance thereof, pursuant to RSA 53-E. The Community Power Plan offers a more flexible electricity procurement mechanism than NH utilities and thus is expected to provide lower electricity rates. Additionally, the Plan will provide access to innovative energy initiatives and offerings as they are developed. The Hudson Community Power Plan includes an Opt-out enrollment mechanism. At least 30 days before program launch all electric customers will be mailed notifications that will include the initial fixed rate for Hudson Community Power service compared with the Eversource supply rate. Customers currently on default energy service provided by Eversource will be able to decline participation in Hudson Community Power at any time by a return postcard, online, or by calling a customer service number. Note that the program will not launch unless the electricity rate is equal to or less than the default utility electricity rate."

Tax Impact: None Governing Body Vote: [INSERT]



5. Questions/Comments





12 School Street * Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 * Tel: 603-886-6024 * Fax: 603-598-6481

November 17, 2022 To: Hudson Selectboard Ladies and Gentlemen,

Attached are the statistics for the November 8th State General Election. We had 10,362 ballots cast, a 62.9% voter turnout. This was a record for a mid-term election. The check-in process with the Poll Pads went smoothly once the voters entered the building. Our Ballot Clerks processed averages of 460 voters per hour at the Community Center and 336 at Alvirne. The Supervisors of the Checklist staff was hampered by having only one Poll Pad at each location to register 610 new voters as well as name and address changes. We did have long lines into the buildings a number of times during the day, as well as parking issues at the Community Center. Chief Dionne and his Officers did a great job of managing those issues with help of DPW staff. There were no parking issues at Alvirne.

I must commend the hard working staff for their efforts. Many stayed after their shift was over to help with the heavy workload or came back at the end of the evening to help with closing the election.

I want to thank Wayne and the Alvirne custodial staff for their assistance, and the Hudson Women's Club for providing dinner for the workers at the Community Center, tabulating the write-ins, and counting the ballots pre-election.

The staff of the DPW efficiently set up and took down both polling places, especially at Alvirne where they came back at the end of the night so the cafeteria could be reset for the next school day.

We did have difficulty in keeping up with entering the Poll Pad slips onto the paper checklist. I will be looking at alternatives, allowed by law, to address this. Please let me know if you have any questions.

lerbothen

Paul Inderbitzen Moderator



TOWN OF HUDSON MODERATOR



12 School Street * Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 * Tel: 603-886-6024 * Fax: 603-598-6481

NOVEMBER 8, 2022 STATE GENERAL ELECTION STATISTICS

Number of Voters per Hour

TIME	MACHINE COUNTS Ward 1	MACHINE COUNTS Ward 2	TOTAL
7-8	454	388	842
8-9	405	322	727
9-10	517	402	919
10-11	353	414	767
11-12	650	430	1080
12-1	691	284	975
1-2	550	286	836
2-3	342	299	641
3-4	403	287	690
4-5	417	366	783
5-6	469	424	893
6-7	505	239	744
7-8	218	222	440
TOTAL	5974	4363	10,337
AVE/HR	460	336	795



TOWN OF HUDSON MODERATOR



12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6024 • Fax: 603-598-6481

TOWN OF HUDSON VOTER PARTICIPATION AT STATE ELECTIONS

Election	Date	Ballots Cast		Abs	entee	Voting Registr		Total Checklist	%
State/Presidential Election	Nov. 2024								
State Primary	Sept. 2024	R D							
Presidential Primary	Feb. 2024	R D							
State General Election	Nov. 2022		10,362	8	45	61	0	16,482	62.9
State Primary	Sept. 2022	R 2505 D 1047	3552	R 93 D 83	176	R 71 D 32	103	15,838	22.4
State/Presidential Election	Nov. 2020		14,719	51	98	114	12	20,911	70.4
State Primary	Sept. 2020	R - 2618 D - 1810	4428	R-385 D-894	1279	91	3	19,236	23.0
Presidential Primary	Feb. 2020	R – 2979 D - 4260	7239	2	99	46	4	19,052	40.0
State General Election	Nov. 2018		9453	5	10	60	1	18,820	50.2
State Primary	Sept. 2018	R - 1531 D - 1286 L - 31	2848	1	101 90)	18,145	15.7
State/Presidential Election	Nov. 2016		13,535	10)76	122	21	18,558	72.9
State Primary	Sept. 2016	R-1801 D-780	2581	82		32		16,920	15.3
Presidential Primary	Feb. 2016	R -5300 D - 3560	8860	3:	35	72	5	16,946	52.3
State General Election	Nov. 2014		8344	32	22	30	4	16,129	51.7
State Primary	Sept. 2014	R – 2005 D - 517	2522	7	'8	81		15,813	15.9

Nov. 2012		12,412	794	1370	15,974	77.7
Sept. 2012	R – 1585 D - 871	2456	53	42	14,159	17.3
Jan. 2012	R - 4304 D - 768	5027	136	352	14,013	35.9
Nov. 2010		7246	267	251	16,599	43.7
Sept. 2010	R – 2052 D - 662	2714	57	70	16,327	16.6
Nov. 2008		12,417	802	1246	16,405	75.7
Sept. 2008	R - 1005 D - 549	1554	26	31	14,585	10.7
Jan. 2008	R - 4177 D - 4399	8576	227	1012	14,979	57.3
	Sept. 2012 Jan. 2012 Nov. 2010 Sept. 2010 Nov. 2008 Sept. 2008	Sept. 2012 $R - 1585$ D - 871Jan. 2012 $R - 4304$ D - 768Nov. 2010 $R - 2052$ D - 662Nov. 2008 $R - 2052$ D - 662Nov. 2008 $R - 1005$ D - 549Lap. 2008 $R - 4177$	Sept. 2012 $R - 1585$ D - 8712456Jan. 2012 $R - 4304$ D - 7685027Nov. 20107246Sept. 2010 $R - 2052$ D - 6622714Nov. 200812,417Sept. 2008 $R - 1005$ D - 5491554Jan. 2008 $R - 4177$ 8576	Sept. 2012 $R - 1585$ $D - 871$ 245653Jan. 2012 $R - 4304$ $D - 768$ 5027136Nov. 20107246267Sept. 2010 $R - 2052$ $D - 662$ 271457Nov. 200812,417802Sept. 2008 $R - 1005$ 	Sept. 2012 $R - 1585$ $D - 871$ 24565342Jan. 2012 $R - 4304$ $D - 768$ 5027136352Nov. 20107246267251Sept. 2010 $R - 2052$ $D - 662$ 27145770Nov. 200812,4178021246Sept. 2008 $R - 1005$ $D - 549$ 15542631Ian 2008 $R - 4177$ 85762271012	Sept. 2012 $R - 1585$ $D - 871$ 2456534214,159Jan. 2012 $R - 4304$ $D - 768$ 502713635214,013Nov. 2010 7246 26725116,599Sept. 2010 $R - 2052$ $D - 662$ 2714577016,327Nov. 200812,417802124616,405Sept. 2008 $R - 1005$ $D - 549$ 1554263114,585Ian. 2008 $R - 4177$ 8576227101214,979

TOWN OF HUDSON

Office of the Assessor

Jim Michaud Chief Assessor, CAE Email: jmichaud@hudsonnh.gov Hymln 11-22-2

12 School Street · Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 · Tel: 603-886-6009 · Fax: 603-598-6481

To: Board of Selectmen Steve Malizia, Town Administrator From: Jim Michaud, Chief Assessor

October 31, 2022 **RECEIVED** 0CT 3 1 2022

> TOWN OF HUDSON SELECTMEN'S OFFIC

www.hudsonnh.gov

Re: Warrant Article needed for Veteran Tax Credits

The Assessing Department is recommending, as a result of the passage of HB 1677 (attached), as well as a result of a recent NH DRA Technical Information Release (TIR)(attached), that warrant article(s) be put on the ballot to re-adopt the Optional Veterans Tax Credit (\$600.00) and the All Veterans Tax Credit (\$600.00).

The 2022 legislation under HB 1677 expanded the mandated eligibility for Veterans Tax Credits to now allow;

- Active Duty serving armed forces members; and
- An expansion of eligible active service time to ALL Title's (10,12,14 & 32) active service that has been completed by National Guard as well as Reservists.

As the DRA TIR indicates, if the Town doesn't put warrant article(s) on the ballot, and have the voters approve them, for the Optional Veterans' Credit and All Veterans' Credit, then both of those credit amounts would be automatically reduced from the current \$600.00 tax credit, to the de minimus \$50.00 tax credit.

The DRA is reportedly working on model warrant article language to accomplish this, we do not know when that language will be available as their priority right now is tax rates. In the interim, I would suggest that the BOS put in a placeholder Warrant Article to account for this.

In regards to how many could qualify, I offer the attached, it does not offer community-by-community detail. The Veteran data snapshot sheet is a little dated to 8/6/21, the DMDC data is from June 2022, the Vet data snapshot indicates 77.5% homeownership rate in NH.

Keep in mind, in addition to the attached, there are former Guard and Reserve, who are not current, and their title active duty time could also likely qualify them now, so its not just current guard/reserve being added.

Speaking for myself, I don't anticipate any <u>significant</u> increase in # of qualifying folks with this, points to support that as follows;

- WWII/Korean/Vietnam era's veterans are declining in net count, Vietnam era also being the last draft era;
- Keep in mind, if past is prologue, they are not all going to apply in the same tax year;
- An additional element, a 2nd week of March 2023 vote, followed up by an April 15th 2023 filing deadline, 2023 is likely not going to be a big increase year, timing.

Given all of the above, and notwithstanding that NH has the highest per capita count of veterans in the country, the accumulation of additional qualifying vets via HB 1667 will likely attenuate the veterans decline overall, so, in the net, probably very little statistical movement on total counts. This thought process also aligns with my conversations along that same vein with the Deputy Adjutant General and Veterans Services Director prior this year.

Should the BOS have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Warrant Article L

Readoption of Veterans Tax Credits

Shall the Town of Hudson vote in accordance with RSA 72:27-a to readopt the provisions of RSA 72:28, II, previously adopted, for an Optional Veteran's Tax Credit at \$600.00 per year? If readopted, the All Veteran's Tax Credit, previously adopted, will also be \$600.00 per year, the same amount as the Optional Veteran's Tax Credit. If readopted and approved, this article shall take effect for the 2023 property tax year.

CHAPTER 121 HB 1667 - FINAL VERSION

2022 SESSION

22-2612 05/08

HOUSE BILL	1	667
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- AN ACT relative to the standard and optional veterans' tax credits and the all veterans' tax credit.
- SPONSORS: Rep. Pauer, Hills. 26; Rep. Baxter, Rock. 20; Rep. Binford, Graf. 15; Rep. Homola, Hills. 27; Rep. Weyler, Rock. 13; Rep. Edwards, Rock. 4; Rep. Foster, Hills. 5; Sen. Avard, Dist 12

COMMITTEE: Municipal and County Government

ANALYSIS

This bill clarifies that veterans of the United States armed forces who served in any active duty status and who continue to serve qualify for the veterans' property tax credits.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in *bold italics.* Matter removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough.] Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

CHAPTER 121 HB 1667 - FINAL VERSION

22-2612 05/08

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT relative to the standard and optional veterans' tax credits and the all veterans' tax credit.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 121:1 Standard and Optional Veterans' Tax Credit. Amend RSA 72:28, IV to read as follows:

IV. The following persons shall qualify for the standard veterans' tax credit or the optional
veterans' tax credit:

(a) Every resident of this state who *is a veteran, as defined in RSA 21:50, and* served not
less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States in any qualifying war or
armed conflict listed in this section, and *continues to serve or* was honorably discharged or an officer *who continues to serve or was* honorably separated from service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such
resident, provided that [Title 10] training for active duty by a member of [a] *the* national guard or reserve
shall be included as service under this subparagraph;

(b) Every resident of this state who was terminated from the armed forces because of
 service-connected disability; or the surviving spouse of such resident; and

(c) The surviving spouse of any resident who suffered a service-connected death.

13 121:2 All Veterans' Tax Credit. Amend RSA 72:28-b, IV to read as follows:

IV. A person shall qualify for the all veterans' tax credit if the person is a resident of this state who *is a veteran, as defined in RSA 21:50, and* served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and *continues to serve or* was honorably discharged or an officer *who continues to serve or was* honorably separated from service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that [Title 10] training for active duty *or state active duty* by a member of [a] *the* national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this paragraph; provided however that the person is not eligible for and is not receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35.

121:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Approved: May 27, 2022 Effective Date: July 26, 2022

12

New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration 109 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301

TECHNICAL INFORMATION RELEASE UPDATED TIR 2022-005 Date: October 24, 2022

A Technical Information Release is designed to provide immediate information regarding tax laws administered by the Department or the policy positions of the Department as a service to taxpayers and practitioners. A Technical Information Release represents the position of the Department on the limited issues discussed herein based on current law and Department interpretation. For the current status of any tax law, practitioners and taxpayers should consult the source documents (i.e., Revised Statutes Annotated, Rules, Case Law, Session Laws, etc.).

Statutory Change to Property Tax Credits for Veterans - Readoption Required

The New Hampshire Legislature passed, and Governor Sununu signed into law House Bill 1667 (Chapter 121, Laws of 2022), amending eligibility criteria for certain veterans' property tax credits. Effective on July 26, 2022, the bill amended RSA 72:28, the "Standard and Optional Veterans' Tax Credit," and RSA 72:28-b, the "All Veterans' Tax Credit," to expand the eligibility requirements of the veterans' tax credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces.

Under RSA 72:27-a, IV amendments to tax credits and exemptions which require adoption will only apply "in a municipality which previously adopted the provision only after the municipality complies with the procedure" specified in RSA 72:27-a, II, unless otherwise expressly required by law. Nothing in HB 1667 created an exception to this readoption requirement.

As a result of the passage of HB 1667, municipalities should consider the following:

- For municipalities with the Standard Veteran's Tax Credit:
 - No readoption is required, the expanded eligibility will apply to the Standard Veterans' Tax Credit for the April 1, 2023 tax year.
 - Municipalities can adopt the Optional Veterans' Tax Credit under RSA 72:28, II and/or the All Veterans' Tax Credit under RSA 72:28-b with the expanded eligibility for the April 1, 2023 tax year.
- For municipalities with an Optional Veterans' Tax Credit under RSA 72:28, II:
 - The existing Optional Veteran's Tax Credit will remain in place for the April 1, 2022 tax year.
 - The Optional Veteran's Tax Credit, at the existing amount or at a new amount, must be *readopted* pursuant to RSA 72:27-a to remain in place and include the expanded eligibility effective for the April 1, 2023 tax year.

- If the Optional Veteran's Tax Credit is not readopted, the Standard Veterans' Tax Credit will be in place for the April 1, 2023 tax year, which will include the expanded eligibility requirements.
- For municipalities with the All Veterans' Tax Credit under RSA 72:28-b:
 - The existing All Veterans' Tax Credit will remain in place for the April 1, 2022 tax year.
 - The All Veterans' Tax Credit, at the existing amount or at a new amount, must be *readopted* pursuant to RSA 72:27-a to remain in place and include the expanded eligibility effective April 1, 2023 tax year.
 - If the All Veterans' Tax Credit is not readopted, the Standard Veterans' Tax Credit will be in place for the April 1, 2023 tax year, which will include the expanded eligibility requirements.

The Department will examine warrant article submissions to ensure that communities which have previously adopted these credits are aware that they must be readopted to remain in effect. Additionally, and in accordance with our usual practice, before approving a municipality's veterans' tax credit totals reported on the "Summary Inventory of Valuation" (MS-1) the Department will determine that a legislative body vote to readopt these credits has occurred.

Additional information can be obtained by referencing RSAs 72:27-a, 72:28, 72:28-b, and 21:50. Questions may be directed to the Department of Revenue Administration's Municipal Bureau at (603) 230-5090.



New Hamsphire's Veterans

POPULATION

2.649 National Guard 757 Active Duty

4,097 Reservists 99,249 Veterans

Veteran Population _{1,2}	New Hampshin
Number of Veterans	99,249
Percent of Adult Population that are Veterans	8.5%
Number of Women Veterans	7,370
Percent Women Veterans	7.9%
Number of Military Retirees	9,584
Percent of Veterans that are Military Retirees	10,78%
Number of Veterans Age 65 and Over	49,357
Percent of Veterans Age 65 and Over	52.9
Age Distribution,	New Hampshire
75 years and over	25.3%
65 to 74 years	27.2%
55 to 64 years	19.8%
35 to 54 years	20.3%
18 to 34 years	7.3%
Period of Service,	New Hampshire
World War II	2.1%
Korean War	6.5%
Vietnam era	37%
Gulf War I	17.0%
Gulf War II	18.5%
Household Income,	New Hampshire
200k or more	6.0%
100K to 199.9k	25.0%
50k to 99.9k	34,0%
25k to 49.9k	23.0%
less than 25k	12.0%
Educational Attainment,	New Hampshire
Some college or Associate degree	1
Bachelor's or higher	30.6%
VA Healthcare and Benefits,	A CONTRACTOR OF THE
Number of Veterans Receiving Disability Compensation	New Hampshire
Number of Veterans Receiving Disability Compensation	20,243
Number of Veterans Receiving Pension Number of Dependency & indemnity Comp Beneficiaries	834
Number of Education Beneficiaries	1,641
Number of Enrolls in VA Healthcare System	10,234
Number of Unique Patients Treated	45,100
And the second s	30,748

Sources of data: Veterans Data Central, www.veteransdata.Info US Dept of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Experience Office, www.va.gov/vetdata/stateSummaries.asp US Census Bureau, https://data.census.gov/cedscl/ DoD Defense Manpower Data Center, 9/3/17 2019 Home Mortgage Disclosure Act Data 2020 HUD Point in Time Homeless Estimates This hondout was updated 8-6-21.

ECONOMIC WELL BEING

2.9%

Veteran unemployment rate in NH is below the national average of 4.3%.

\$68,900

Median household income of NH Veterans. Median income of all NH households is \$76.768, 65% of Veterans make more than \$50.000/year.



HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

113

Out of the 113 Veterans experiencing homelessness in NH, 106 are sheltered in emergency or transitional housing. 7 remain unsheltered * *2020 HUD Point in Time Homeless Estimate

77.5%

Homeownership rate of NH Veterans.

17,311

Approximately 17.311 NH Veterans live in homes with one or more major problems of quality, crowding or cost. Housing affordability is the greatest housing problem among NH Veterans.





NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS AND VETERANS SERVICES

Supporting New Hamsphire's Veterans

STATE GOVERNMENT

DEPT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS & VETERANS SERVICES

Division of Veterans Services Division of Community Based Military Programs NH State Veterans Cemetery State Veterans Council NH Military Leadership Team

NH VETERANS HOME

Located in Tilton, NH, the NH Veterans Home strives to provide the best quality of life for NH Veterans with dignity, honor & respect.

NH SUICIDE PREVENTION COUNCIL--MILITARY & VETERANS COMMITTEE

This committee merged with the NH Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide among SMVF team. Committee is co-chaired by Amy Cook.

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS-JOINT MILITARY TASK FORCE

Major Ceneral Mikolaitles, Committee Chair Funding has been authorized by the Commission to provide services for military and Veterans.

INITIATIVES & NEEDS

Initiatives

Suicide Prevention NH Veteran-Friendly Businesses ATQ: Ask, Link, Collaborate Military/Veteran Family Support Needs

Coordinated/centralized resource & referral assistance with customized support Affordable housing

in home aging services Increase VA enrollment





VETERANS AFFAIRS

VA Medical Centers Manchester VA Medical Center

White River Junction VA Medical Center

- VAMC Directors are members of the NH Military Leadership Team.
- Community Based Outpatient Clinics: Conway, Keene, Littleton, Portsmouth, Somersworth, Tilton
- Wide variety of specialists available. VA care has positive health outcomes and is often more accessible.

Veterans Benefit Administration

- \$417,784.000 Into NH Veterans pockets in 2020
- VBA Director is member of the NH Military Leadership Team



COMMUNITY PARTNERS & RESOURCES

There are a variety of groups, coalitions and organizations serving Veterans statewide to meet needs in a variety of areas. The Department of Military Affairs & Veterans Services has representation on, involvement in and/or a partnership with the following:

State Veterans Advisory Committee Vet Centers (Berlin, Manchester) North Country Veterans Committee Seacoast Veterans Committee Justice Involved Veterans Task Force Legislative Committee on PTSD & TBI Manchester Mayor's Challenge Team NH Veteran-Friendly Business Program Advisory Panel

Lakes Region Veterans Coalition Community Behavioral Health Association Governor's Commission on Housing Stability Alliance for Healthy Aging NH Military Interstate Compact Commission (MIC3) Servicelink 2-1-1

www.dmavs.nh.gov



Number of Military and DoD		1		 		1		 	
Appropriated Fund (APF) Civilian									
Personnel					 		1		
By Assigned Duty Location and Service/Component									
Note: This table only represents the unclassified data on personnel who are assigned for duty at these specific locations.									
The table includes personnel who are assigned to the State Department and Embassies overseas.									
The table does not include all personnel on temporary duty, or deployed in support of contingency operations.									
Sources: Active Duty Master File, Reserve Common Components Personnel Data System (RCCPDS) File, Appropriated Fund (APF) Civilian Master File					 				
As of June 30, 2022				 					
Note: Questions concerning the total DoD personnel numbers for a given location are referred to OSD Public Affairs.									
Prepared by the Defense Manpower Data Center on September 21, 2022.			 	 					
DRS# 103763		 	 	 	 				

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94 - 12 Miles		ACTIVE DUTY						NATIONAL GUARD / RESERVE				1	<u> </u>		APE D		IAN				
	ARMY	NAVY	MARINE	AIR FORCE SPACE FORCE	COAST GUARD	TOTAL	ARMY GUARD	ARMY RESERVE	NAVY RESERVE	MARINE CORPS RESERVE	AIR GUARD	AIR FORCE RESERVE	COAST GUARD RESERVE		ARMY	NAVY	MADINE	AIR	4TH	TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
NEW HAMPSHIRE	46	931	52	26	111	1,166	1,620	845	285	142	1,097	0	6	3,995	461	19	2	258		907	6,068

5 N

in-22-22



TOWN OF HUDSON Finance Department



RECEIVED

NOV 1 5 2022

TOWN OF HUDSON SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

12 School Street * Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 * Tel: 603-886-6000 * Fax: 603 881-3944

To:	Board of Selectmen Steve Malizia, Town Administ	rator
From:	Lisa Labrie, Finance Director	Sas
Date:	November 15, 2022	

Subject: Lowell Road Bridge - Construction

Please accept this recommendation to be placed on the Board of Selectmen's next agenda.

Recommendation:

To award the contract for construction services for the Lowell Rd. Bridge to William P. Davis Excavation, LLC.

Information:

On 11/2/21, the Board of Selectmen approved funding of this project with American Rescue Plan money. The project was advertised on the Town website and in the Union Leader Newspaper. A mandatory pre-bid meeting was held on 10/28/22 and also four different vendors were sent bid invitations. The estimate for the project was \$450,000 with a budgeted allotment of \$700,000. We received 3 bids and the lowest bid was William P. Davis at \$334,500.

Funding: The construction costs are to be charged to account no. 7201 which is an infrastructure account funded by the American Rescue Plan.

Motion: To approve the contract for construction services for the Lowell Road Bridge (116/080) to William P. Davis Excavation, LLC. for the amount of, not to exceed \$334,500 and to charge the costs to 7201. Recommended by the Town Engineer and Finance Director.

Cc: Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer



TOWN OF HUDSON

Engineering Department



12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6008 • Fax: 603-816-1291

- TO: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator Board of Selectmen
- FROM: Elvis Dhima, P.E., Town Engineer
- DATE: November 10, 2022
- RE: Lowell Road Bridge (116/080) Construction Phase

On November 2, 2021 the Board of Selectmen decided to fund this project with American Rescue Plan funds. We advertised on the Town website and on the Union Leader on October 12, 2022. On October 28, 2022 we held a mandatory pre-bid meeting and we sent the bid invitations to four different vendors. Our estimate for this project was \$450,000

On November 10, 2022 we received 3 bids as follows:

WPD Excavation LLC, Hampton, NH:	\$334,500
NorthEast Earth Mechanics, Pittsfield, NH	\$488,950
New England Construction, Hudson MA	\$492,400

After completing the bid evaluation and proposed work/tasks, the Town Engineer recommendation to the BOS is to approve the contract for construction services to the low bidder.

Motion:

To approve the contract for construction services for the Lowell Road Bridge (116/080) to William P. David Excavation, LLC. for the amount of, not to exceed \$334,500, using Account #: 7201.

Office of Town Clerk/Tax Collector										
BRIC	ION SERVICES FOR IGE REPAIR R FIRST BROOK (116/	/080)								
Thursday, Novem	oer 10 th, 2022 @ 10	AM								
Name and Address Date Received Amount										
WP DAVIS 11/10/22 334,500										
HAMPTON, NH 9:30										
NORTHEAST EARTH MECHANICS, INC	11/10/22	/00.050								
159 BARNSTEAD ROAD PITTSFIELD		488,950								
NEW ENGLAND INFRASTRUCTURE INC	11/10/22	492,400								
16 BRENT DR HUDSON, MA)01749	9:46									
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Tradi manana sebalika ke										
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Respectfully Submitted:	NINNA MEL	tason								
CC: Selectmen's Office	Steve Malizia									
Finance										
Fown Engineer Elvis Dhima										

1 2 7 - 22

TOWN OF HUDSON

Engineering Department



12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6008 • Fax: 603-816-1291

TO: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator Board of Selectmen

- FROM: Elvis Dhima, P.E., Town Engineer
- DATE: November 15, 2022



RE: Inspection Services Award for Lowell Road Bridge Repair

The Town of Hudson hired Wright-Pierce, Inc., as the low bidder, for the design and permitting phase for the project listed above.

For the construction phase, we need support with shop drawing review, quality control and assurance during construction and providing feedback to the contractor for the steel, bridge and permitting compliance.

The Town Engineer's recommendation is to hire Wright-Pierce, Inc. on an as-needed basis to provide support during the construction phase.

Motion:

To approve the contract for inspection services for the Lowell Road Bridge Repair to Wright-Pierce, Inc., for the amount of, not to exceed, \$14,500, using American Rescue Plan Account #: 7201.
AGREEMENT BETWEEN TOWN OF HUDSON, NH AND WRIGHT-PIERCE FOR LOWELL ROAD BRIDGE REPAIR CONSTRUCTION PHASE ENGINEERING SERVICES

THIS IS AN AGREEMENT made as of November ______, 2022 between ("CLIENT") and Wright-Pierce ("ENGINEER"). CLIENT intends to provide construction phase engineering services for the repair via concrete liner of the Lowell Road Bridge (the "Project").

CLIENT and ENGINEER in consideration of their mutual covenants herein agree in respect to the performance or furnishing of professional engineering services by ENGINEER with respect to the Project and the payment for those services by CLIENT as set forth in Section 2 below. Execution of this Agreement by ENGINEER and CLIENT constitutes CLIENT's written authorization to ENGINEER to proceed on the date first above written with the Services described in Section 1 below. This Agreement will become effective on the date first above written.

SECTION 1 - SCOPE OF SERVICES/SCHEDULE

I. Construction Phase Services

A. Bid Phase Support Services

The Town of Hudson will advertise the project for construction. Wright-Pierce bid phase services include tabulating bids, evaluating bids, and preparing a letter of recommendation regarding award of the contract. Up to 2 hours are assumed for this task.

B. Construction Administration

Wright-Pierce will provide Construction administration in support of the construction project:

- 1. Review and respond to all RFI's created by Contractor: All RFI's will be addressed by appropriate Wright-Pierce staff. For the purposes of this proposal, we have assumed up to 4 hours of RFI responses for this project.
- 2. Review and respond to change orders: Coordinate processing with the Town of Hudson. It is assumed that change orders can be initiated by the Owner, Contractor, or Engineer. Wright-Pierce will review all change orders and present an opinion related to their validity (if presented by the Contractor). All change orders will be tracked for use during construction contract tracking and pay requisition review. For the purposes of this proposal, we have assumed up to 6 hours to address change orders.

- 3. Review, evaluate and process shop drawings and samples required to be submitted per the contract documents. All shop drawings and samples will be reviewed, evaluated, and processed by appropriate Wright-Pierce staff. For the purposes of this proposal, we have assumed up to 4 hours of shop drawing review for this project.
- 4. Review monthly applications for payment submitted by contractor and coordinate processing with the Town of Hudson. Wright-Pierce will review monthly applications for payment submitted by the contractor. Wright-Peirce office staff will coordinate with the RPR and Town to confirm quantities of installed and delivered materials to support the monthly application. For the purposes of this proposal, we have assumed the project will result in the review of 3 applications for payment. We have assumed 2 hours per review of each payment application.
- 5. Inspect the work for substantial completion and final completion in accordance with the requirements of the contract documents. Wright-Pierce will involve the appropriate project engineers to inspect the work for substantial and final completion depending on the items inspected. We have assumed 4 hours for this effort.
- 6. Assist in preparation of punch lists. The punch list will be developed as part of the substantial completion inspection and will be maintained through final completion to guide the final work. The punch list will also be used to determine the appropriate amount of retainage to hold between substantial and final completion. The punch list will be maintained between the period of substantial completion and final completion. We have assumed up to 2 hours for this effort.
- 7. Attend periodic meetings for progress consultation with the Town: For the purposes of this proposal, we have assumed four progress meetings for a total of 8 hours of meetings that will require in person attendance by two staff members (project manager and project engineer or RPR). It is assumed progress meetings will take 1 hour each.

C. Construction Observation and Administration

Wright-Pierce will conduct up to eight site visits for a project total of 32 hours for construction observation based on the nature of the proposed culvert rehabilitation work:

1. Observe the progress and quality of work as an experienced and qualified design professional determine if work is proceeding in general conformance with the contract documents, subject to appropriate and necessary revisions during construction. 2. Check that the contractor is in conformance with design intent and the following: property rights agreements; erosion and sediment control requirements; and state and federal permits, regulations, and statutes. Wright-Pierce will exercise the engineer's authority as provided in the contract documents and report immediately any deviations to the Town for corrective action.

3. Report immediately any unusual occurrences and observed accidents occurring within the project limits to the Town.

D. Permit Compliance Reporting and Monitoring

Wright-Pierce will develop compliance reporting and monitoring in accordance with the conditions of NHDES Wetlands and Non-Site Specific Permit #2022-02504 for the subject project. We have assumed a project total of 26 hours for permit compliance reporting and monitoring:

1. Develop a construction monitoring plan prepared by a certified professional erosion and sediment control specialist or certified wetland scientist is submitted to the department, in accordance with Env-Wt 307.18(b). The plan should include erosion, sedimentation and water quality control monitoring.

2. Conduct monitoring in accordance with the approved plan.

2. Within 60 days following the completion of the project, submit a report that describes the monitoring conducted and date(s) of inspections, documents the stability of the stream through the crossing and includes photos showing the extent of jurisdictional impacts, shall be submitted to the department, in accordance with Env-Wt 307.18(c).

II. Additional Services

During ENGINEER's work on the project, it may become apparent to either CLIENT or ENGINEER that Additional Services not included in the basic Scope of Services are desired. ENGINEER will undertake to provide such Additional Services upon CLIENT's written authorization.

SECTION 2 - COMPENSATION

I. Payments to ENGINEER

ENGINEER's fee for the services outlined in the SCOPE OF SERVICES section of this Agreement is as follows:

For Scope Item I, a fee based on ENGINEER's Standard Billing Rates, plus Reimbursable Expenses times a factor of 1.0 and charges for Consultants' services times a factor of 1.10. Total compensation for these Scope Items is \$14,500.

If it becomes apparent to ENGINEER at any time before the budgeted compensation has been about eighty percent expended that the total amount of compensation to be paid to ENGINEER for these services will exceed the estimate, ENGINEER will so notify CLIENT in writing. CLIENT and ENGINEER will then promptly meet to review the status of the Project, and CLIENT will either agree to an increase in the total compensation or CLIENT and ENGINEER will agree on a reduced Scope of Services so that the total compensation remains within the original estimate. Unless CLIENT informs ENGINEER promptly upon notification of a possible fee overrun to suspend work on the Project, CLIENT will pay ENGINEER for all services rendered prior to reaching agreement on a revised Scope or compensation estimate.

For authorized Additional Services, ENGINEER will bill CLIENT a fee based on ENGINEER's Standard Billing Rates, plus Reimbursable Expenses times a factor of 1.0 and charges for Consultants' services times a factor of 1.10.

This Agreement (consisting of pages 1 to 5 plus Exhibits A and B constitutes the entire agreement between CLIENT and ENGINEER and supersedes all prior written or oral understandings. This Agreement may only be amended, supplemented, modified, or canceled by a duly executed written instrument.

FNGINEER

CLIENT.

	1 5.4
By:	By: Ryan T. Wingard
Title:	Title: Vice President
Date:	Date: November 15, 2022
Address for giving notices:	Address for giving notices:
	WRIGHT-PIERCE
1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	11 Bowdoin Mill Island, Suite 140
	Topsham, Maine 04086

TOWN OF HUDSON

Public Works

TOWN OF HUDSON SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

RECEIVED

NOV 1 5 2022



2 Constitution Drive Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 603/886-6018 Fax 603/594-1143

- To: Board of Selectmen
- From: Jess Forrence Public Works Director
- Date: November 1, 2022
- Re: To end the contract between the Town of Hudson and Milton Caterpillar

On April 12th 2022 the town of Hudson entered in an agreement with Milton cat on a 5year lease purchasing for a Caterpillar 938M front end loader which included the trade- in of a 2004 Caterpillar IT38G front of the loader. After the Board of Selectmen's approval and the contracts being signed, we had a delivery date of mid October 2022. Public works has received a call from the Caterpillar sales officer informing us that the 938M Caterpillar delivery date has been pushed out until springtime 2023 at the earliest. I would like to end this contract with Caterpillar to look at other options.

- Cc: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator
- Cc: Lisa Labrie, Finance Director



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SALES ORDER

			_	05/03/2022
OLD TO:	Town of Hudson		Customer #:	ORDER DATE 3290100
)/B/A:			FOB:	Hudson NH
DDRESS:_ CITY: _ HONE #:	<u>2 Constitution Dr</u> <u>Hudson</u> state: <u>Nł</u> 603-886-6018 CELL:	ZIP: 03051	- SELL PRICE:	\$244,000.00
ax #:		a@hudsonnh.gov	TRADE IN:	\$40,000.00
	DRESS: 2 Constitution Driv	·e	– NET BALANCE:	\$204,000.00
	zip: Hudson NH 030		STATE TAX:	
	DESCRIPTION		SALES TAX:	\$0.00
MAKE:	Caterpillar SERIAL #:		FREIGHT \$	\$0.00
MODEL:	029M		TOTAL DUE:	\$204,000.00
ATTACHMENTS			DOWN PYMT:	\$0.00
2022 Cate	rpillar 938M per our proposal dated April 29, 202	2.	PAYOFF AMT:	\$0.00
Contact: J	im Lavacchia 603-886-6018		BALANCE:	\$204,000.00
DESCRIPTION	MAKE: <u>Caterpillar model:</u> IT38G Wheel Loader YEAR: 20 MAKE:MODEL:	SERIAL #: CSX006 07 SOLD TO CUSTO SERIAL #:	DU7ALLOWANCE: MER # / SALESMAN #: ALLOWANCE:	\$40,000.00 \$0.00
DESCRIPTION _	YEAR	SOLD TO CUSTO	MER # / SALESMAN #:	
	MAKE:MODEL:	SERIAL #:	ALLOWANCE:	\$0.00
	YEAR:		MER # / SALESMAN #:	
My.CAT.com CSA or TM&R CVA		FINANCING TE		Image: Trinspace of SMI Financing SMI Financing
	rsion / Reverse Months		Other	ip Payment
		PAYABLE AS FC		<u> </u>
		Net 30		
	Seller	ADDIT	IONAL TERMS AND CO	NDITIONS ON REVERSE SIDE
	SOUTHWORTH-MILTON, INC.		PURCHASER	
BY	IF Stade G-1 00081 14 (SALES AGENT) DIV/TYPE/#/STORE	Print:	Town of	Hudson
ACCEPTE	BY: hery bios (Hay 3, 2022 07:33 EOT)	By: X Jess For	FONTENCE Public rence Public Works Director May 4	2022 09.12 EDT)
	(BRANCH OR SALES MANAGER)			PAGE 1 OF 2

J.X.L. 12/22/15

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This order is subject to the following terms and conditions in addition to those stated on the front hereot:

1. Excusable Delivery Delays: Delays in delivery shall be excused when caused by strikes, lockouts, accidents, fire, delays of manufacturer or carrier, acts of Gori, embargoes, or government action. Or any other cause beyond the reasonable control of the seller, whether the same as, or different from, the matters and things hereinbefore specifically enumerated, and if for such reasons. Sellers may, at its option, carrier this order without liability except for return of the amounts paid on this order.

2. Responsibility for Shipment: The Seller's responsibility for shipments ceases upon delivery to transportation company, and any claim for shortages, delays or damages occurring thereafter shall be made by the Purchaser direct to the transportation company. Any claims against the Seller for shortages in shipments shall be made within fifteen (15) days after receipt of shipment.

3. Duration of Offer: The Purchaser agrees that this order shall not be countermanded or revoked by Purchaser for a period of ten (10) days from date; thereafter it may be countermanded or revoked up to and until Selfer does accept, and that when it is accepted (and until the execution and delivery of the Security Agreement(s) and/or Financing Statement(s) and/or Note(s), and/or other documents required to consummate the sale as above specified) it will cover all agreements between the parties relative to this transaction.

4. Execution of Other Documents: When the property necessary to RI this order is available, the Purchaser agrees on demand to execute and deliver to the Selfer such security agreements, financing statements and other documents as maybe required by the Selfer to secure the purchase price. In the event that the Purchaser fails to execute and deliver to the Selfer such documents, the entre batance of the purchase price shall, at the Selfer's option, become immediately due and payable.

5. Disclaimer of Warranties and Limitation of Liability: Equipment of machinery described herein as new is sold subject to such warranties as are made in whing by the manufacture thereof. Seller will cooperate with Purchaser in obtaining adjustment from manufacture for breach of any such manufacture's warranty, any expense to be for Purchaser's account. In the event 4 is found that there are defective parts within such period as the appropriate manufacture's warranty any expense to be for Purchaser's account. In the event 4 is found that there are defective parts within such period as the appropriate manufacture's agreement to implace defective parts is applicable. Seller will furnish at Sellar's reper facilities during regular working hours such labor as is required or repair of defective parts covered by manufacture's warranty. Cost of necessary transportation to and/or from Seller's repair facilities shall be born sidely by Purchaser. Except for warranty within the manufacture's warranty period. Seller shall not be liable for defects in or for any durages or loss to property sod nor in a separate within specif, specif, in the manufacture's on the reverse side hereof and under no circumstances shall Seller or Manufacture's warranty within the manufacture's period as the Purchaser or to any third party. THE FORGOING UNDERTAKING WITH RESPECT TO NEW MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT IS IN LIEU OF ANY OTHER WARRANTIES, INCLUDING ANY WARRANTY OR MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, FURTHER SELLER MAKES NO WARRANTIES WHATSOEVER INCLUDING ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WITH RESPECT TO USED EQUIPMENT

6. Taxes: Unless otherwise stated, the quoted prices do not include sales, use or similar taxes. Such taxes shall be paid by the Purchaser. Consequently in addition to the quoted prices, in affect at the time of the sale, lease or rontal, the amount of any present or applicable sales use or similar tax applicable to the sale, lease or rental of the property shall be paid by the purchaser, or in leu thereof the Purchaser shall provide the company with a tax-exemption certificate acceptable to the taxing authorities. From and after the transfer of possession of the property covered hereby. Purchaser shall timely pay all taxes and other charges assessed by any public body against same, including applicable property taxes.

7. Insurance: The property shall at all times after delivery to the purchaser. Purchaser's agent or a transportation company, whichever first occurs, be the sole responsibility of Purchaser, and all loss or damage to said property or any part thereof occasioned by fire or in any manner whatsoever, shall be borne by Purchaser and shall not operate to extinguish or diminishilability of Purchaser to Selfer. Purchaser shall have said property insured in favor of Selfer against file, and other hazards generally covered by extended fire coverage insurance and any other hazards required any Selfer for full insurable value thereof and the policy of insurance or proof satisfactory to Selfer shall be delivered to Selfer. Until and unless Purchaser obtains such hourance Selfer may have same insured for Selfer's benefit and Purchaser shall be liable for premiums thereon and shall pay or reimburse Selfer for same. Any property shall be insured by the purchaser in companies acceptable to Selfer to the full extent of any balance remaining unpaid and all such policies shall be insured by the purchaser in companies acceptable to Selfer to the full extent of any balance remaining unpaid and all such policies shall have as a co-beneficiary.

8. Attorney Fees: In this event of suit by Seller on this Purchase Order on account of Purchaser's breach thereof. Seller shall be entitled to recover costs and expenses of such suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

9. Definitions: Where applicable herein the word "property" will include labor and/or services.

10. Additional Matters and/or Modifications:

Sales Agreement

Final Audit Report

2022-05-03

- 1		
	Created:	2022-05-03
	By:	Jeff Slade (jeff_slade@miltoncat.com)
	Status:	Signed
	Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA_yvOHB0ZSOP3bbjEJDLxrAFVG0wKTR2J

"Sales Agreement" History

- Document created by Jeff Slade (jeff_slade@miltoncat.com) 2022-05-03 - 9:58:10 AM GMT- IP address: 20.49.122.132
- Document emailed to harry biron (harry_biron@miltoncat.com) for signature 2022-05-03 10:00:27 AM GMT
- Email viewed by harry biron (harry_biron@miltoncat.com) 2022-05-03 - 11:22:57 AM GMT- IP address: 104.28.55.66
- Document e-signed by harry biron (harry_biron@miltoncat.com) Signature Date: 2022-05-03 - 11:23:13 AM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 174.192.6.5
- Agreement completed.
 2022-05-03 11:23:13 AM GMT



Caterpillar 938M Sales Order

Final Audit Report

2022-05-04

- 1		
	Created:	2022-05-04
	By:	Jeff Slade (jeff_slade@miltoncat.com)
	Status:	Signed
	Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAegvPV5qTgzZELw4XGsFpAciTxN_cZ_UD
- 1		

"Caterpillar 938M Sales Order" History

- Document created by Jeff Slade (jeff_slade@miltoncat.com) 2022-05-04 - 10:26:08 AM GMT- IP address: 20.36.220.138
- Document emailed to Jess Forrence Public Works Director (jforrence@hudsonnh.gov) for signature 2022-05-04 10:26:55 AM GMT
- Email viewed by Jess Forrence Public Works Director (jforrence@hudsonnh.gov) 2022-05-04 - 10:53:53 AM GMT- IP address: 174.196.197.169
- Document e-signed by Jess Forrence Public Works Director (jforrence@hudsonnh.gov) Signature Date: 2022-05-04 + 1:12:28 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 64.223.129.43

Agreement completed. 2022-05-04 - 1:12:28 PM GMT





TOWN OF HUDSON Finance Department



12 School Street * Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 * Tel: 603-886-6000 * Fax: 603 881-3944

To: Board of Selectmen Steve Malizia, Town Administrator

From: Lisa Labrie, Finance Director Jul

Date: April 21, 2022

Subject: Replacement of 2004 Front End Loader – Lease purchase of a 2021 Loader

Please accept this recommendation to be placed on the Board of Selectmen's next agenda.

Recommendation:

I agree with Jess Forrence to enter into a 5 year lease purchase for a front-end loader. The loader that we currently have needs replacement and is 18 years old.

Information:

This would be a replacement of our 2004 Caterpillar which will require an estimated \$40,000 worth of repairs. From an accounting standpoint, the useful life of this piece of equipment is 15 years. It doesn't make good fiscal sense to invest \$40,000 to repair it. The lead time to receive this equipment is approximately 6 months.

Funding:

Public Works had money set aside in the FY23 budget for \$42,000 for this purchase (split equally between Sewer, Streets and Drains). Due to the default budget situation for FY23, funding will have to come from an alternate source than originally planned. The estimated annual payment will be \$42,000 with \$14,000 coming from the Sewer Budget (voter approved) line item 5562-401 and the remainder from the town wide paving account 5552-248.

- Motion 1: To waive the bid process and purchase from Milton Caterpillar of NH who matched the quote received from Sourcewell Government Equipment Purchasing Program.
- Motion 2: To enter into a 5 year lease to purchase agreement for a 2021 Caterpillar 938M Front End Loader. The first year of the lease would be paid for with \$14,000 from Sewer account 5562-401 and \$28,000 from Town Wide Paving account 5552-248. All funds to be from the FY23 budget.

Both Motions are recommended by the Public Works and Finance Directors.

TOWN OF HUDSON

Public Works



8F

RECEIVED

2 Constitution Drive Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 603/886-6018 Fax 603/594-1143

Date:	November 1, 2022
То:	Board of Selectmen
From:	Jess Forrence, Public Works Director
Re:	Replacement Front End Loader lease purchase

I would like to discuss entering into a 5-year lease purchase for a replacement front-end loader. In the FY22 default budget, we had \$14,000 in 5552-401, \$14,000 in 5554-401 and \$14,000 in 5562-401 for the last payment of the 5-year lease purchase for our excavator. We had budgeted these amounts into the FY23 default budget to purchase a front-end loader, but the default budget has removed the funding for this critical piece of equipment.

The current front end loader that we are looking to replace is a 2004 Caterpillar. This machine needs engine work, pins and bushings need to be rebuilt, and the cab has severe rot, which is allowing small amounts of exhaust emissions to enter the operator station. I estimate that this machine will require over \$ 40,000 worth of repairs. Even with all these repairs this will still be an 18 year old machine.

Attached is a quote from Anderson Equipment for a 5-year lease purchase of a replacement front-end loader. The payments would have begun in July in our FY23 default budget. The estimated annual lease payment would be \$42,000 with \$14,000 coming out of the voter approved Sewer Budget line item 5562-401, with the remaining \$28,000 coming out of the Town Wide Paving account, line item 5552-248. The lead time on this machine is approximately 6 weeks. This Komatsu WA370 Loader was quoted using the Sourcewell Government Equipment Purchasing Program which Anderson Equipment has matched.

I will be available to answer any questions you may have.

- Cc: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator
- Cc: Lisa Labrie, Finance Director

EQUIPMENT QUOTE

Corporate Office - Pittsburgh, PA

1000 WASHINGTON PIKE, BRIDGEVILLE, PA 15017 • 412-343-2300

					<u>le Locations</u> —			
	PA		NY	11.558	NH		ME	
	Clarion	814 226-4100	Albany	518 785-4500	Lancaster	603 788-5591	Bangor	207 942-0177
	Clearfield	814 765-5311	Buffalo	716 877-1992	Manchester	603 627-7696	Gorham	207 591-5482
doneon	Somerset	814 443-2867	Endicott	607 748-3400	<u>TV</u>			
iderson	WV		Olean	716 372-8822	East Montpelier	802 223-9689		
PINENT COMPANY	Charleston	304 756-2800	Rochester	585 334-6770				
andersonequip.com	Fairmont	304 366-3075	Syracuse	315 463-8673				
-usersone-puloteoni			Watertown	315 788-5512				
			(Tatallovill	010100-0012				

26 October 2022

TOWN OF HUDSON 2 CONSTITUTION DR HUDSON, NH 030513986 ATTENTION: REF QUOTE#: 61220510 Rev:0

Dear Sir,

We are pleased to quote the following for your consideration.

KOMATSU-WA320-8

- KOMATSU MODEL WA320-8 WHEEL LOADER
- Engine, Komatsu SAA6D107E-3, 6 cylinder, turbocharged, air to air after cooled, cooled EGR, direct injection Tier 4 Final emissions
- certified, diesel
- Gross HP: 170HP (127kW) / 2100 RPM (SAE J1995)
- Net HP: 165HP (123kW) / 2100 RPM (SAEJ1349) ISO / 9249
- · Exhaust pipe, curved
- · Fan, auto-reversing, hydraulic-driven
- KDPF After-Treatment Assembly Consisting of KDOC and KCSF
- Komatsu Auto Idle Shutdown
- SCR Selective Catalytic Reduction aftertreatment with DEF tank and heated lines
- Starting aid, intake manifold preheater
- Electrical system: Alternator, 90 ampere, 24 volt
- · Power Train and Controls:
- Differentials, torque proportioning, inboard planetary
- Parking brake, wet multiple disc.
- Service brakes, hydraulic, wet multiple disc, axle by axle (inboard)
- Transmission, hydrostatic, 1 pump, 2 motors, full auto shift with speed range control
- Transmission control

Your COMPLETE Equipment Solution

\$204,349.00

ANDERSON EQUIPMENT COMPANY

TOWN OF HUDSON REF QUOTE#: 61220510 Rev:0 Page 2 of 4

- F/R: steering column / loader control lever selectable
- · Max speed control: electric, 4 speed F/R
- · Traction control: electric, 3 mode
- CAB (ROPS/FOPS) WITH HEATED REAR WINDOW, AIR CONDITIONER/HEATER/DEFROSTER, FRONT AND REAR WIPERS/WASHERS, REAR VIEW MIRRORS (2 OUTSIDE/2 INSIDE) RIGHT AND LEFT HAND DOOR ACCESS WITH STEPS
- HYDRAULIC CONTROL 2 SPOOL (BOOM/BUCKET) MULTI-FUNCTION MONO LEVER CONTROL WITH INTEGRATED TRANSMISSION F/R SWITCH; INCLUDED INTEGRATED THIRD SPOOL PROPORTIONAL SWITCH
- 7" LCD COLOR MONITOR
- AM/FM/BLUETOOTH RADIO WITH SPEAKERS AND AUXILIARY JACK
- REAR VIEW MONITOR
- HEATED AIR SUSPENSION, RECLINING FABRIC SEAT
- 3" RETRACTABLE SEAT BELT
- STEERING WHEEL TILTABLE AND TELESCOPIC
- KOMTRAX SYSTEM
- 20.5-R25, MICHELIN, XHA, L-3 TIRES
- RIMS ONLY FOR 20.5-25 TUBELESS TIRES
- STANDARD BOOM
- 3-SPOOL VALVE & PIPING WITH MONO-LEVER WITH INTEGRATED THIRD SPOOL
- ADDITIONAL COUNTERWEIGHT
- BUCKET CYLINDER STANDARD
- ENGINE INTAKE STANDARD
- ELECTRONICALLY CONTROLLED SUSPENSION SYSTEM
- FRONT FENDERS
- PARALLEL LOADER LINKAGE
- REAR FULL FENDERS

IIIPROTECT YOUR INVESTMENTIII ASK ABOUT ADDING AN ANDERSON EXTENDED WARRANTY!

Your COMPLETE Equipment Solution

TOWN OF HUDSON REF QUOTE#: 61220510 I Page 3 of 4	Rev:0	ANDERSON EQUIPMENT COMPANY
AEC EQUIP#: 874-98285 S/N: 1221-18557-1/1	 MFR: TRM MFR'G MODEL: 50HC 50HC HYD. COUPLER/WA320/QC416 TRM MODEL 50HC HYDRAULIC COUPLER ASSEMBL BUILT FOR A KOMATSU WA320-8. COMPLETE WITH HYDRAULIC INSTALLATION KIT. (416 INTERCHANGE) ITEM# HCKO-20091A THIRD FUNCTION INSTALLATION KIT. (K1128-3) 	
AEC EQUIP#: 875-98292 S/N: 1221-18564-1/1	 MFR: TRM MFR'G MODEL: 320GP-350 3.5 YD GP BUCKET/QC/WA320 3.5 CYD GENERAL PURPOSE BUCKET(GPKO-30795/ 108" WIDE, DRILLED FOR THE KOMATSU REVERSIB BOLT ON CUTTING EDGES. WITH Q/C 416 FEMALE A 3,500 LBS BOLT ON CUTTING EDGES INSTALLED. (PT# 350GGP) TO MOUNT ON A WA320 LOADER WITH COUPLER. 	LE
AEC EQUIP#: 877-99760 S/N: 0422-19399-3/1	MFR: TRM MFR'G MODEL: 60" FORKS/QC/200-320 60" LO PRO FORKS WA200-320/416 TRM/GEM LOW PROFILE CONSTRUCTION FORKS PN: 50CFLP6060M 60" CARRIAGE 60" TINES FITS MACHINE SIZE: WA200-320 416 INTERCHANGE	\$6,651.00

APPROX WEIGHT: 1500LBS

e 1 . . . 1

Your COMPLETE Equipment Solution

ANDERSON EQUIPMENT COMPANY

TOTAL BEFORE TAX: \$231,000.00

CAT IT38G TRADE VALUE \$28,000 NET TRADE \$203,000 MACHINE TO SHIP TO ANDERSON MID DECEMBER FOR YEAR END DELIVERY TO THE TOWN OF HUDSON ASSUMING NO DELAYS IN SHIPPING.

Prices Quoted are F.O.B. Manchester, NH

Thank you for the opportunity to quote.

Sincerely,

ANDERSON EQUIPMENT COMPANY

RYAN HAZELTON 603 345-0064

This quote is good for 30 days from above quote date. The terms of this agreement will not be binding until accepted in writing by a duly appointed manager of Anderson Equipment Company. Quoted prices are only for items listed above and do not include miscellaneous charges such as freight unless otherwise noted. This quote Is subject to Anderson Equipment Company's current Sales Terms and Conditions which can be furnished upon request. Applicable Sales Tax will be added unless an Exemption Certificate is furnished.

Your COMPLETE Equipment Solution

TOWN OF HUDSON REF QUOTE#: 61220510 Rev:0 Page 4 of 4

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ADDENDUM NUMBER ONE

GOVERNMENT OBLIGATION CONTRACT DATED AS OF MAY 16, 2022

This Addendum Number One to the Government Obligation Contract dated as of May 16, 2022 is by and between KS StateBank (Obligee) and Town of Hudson, New Hampshire (Obligor) and is the first written addendum to the above referenced Contract.

Now, therefore, the parties hereby mutually agree, for consideration the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, to amend the Contract as follows:

- 1. Substitution of Collateral. The parties hereby agree that the Equipment listed on Exhibit A of the above referenced Contract as One (1) 2022 Caterpillar 938M Wheel Loader is hereby removed and replaced with One (1) Komatsu WA320-8 Wheel Loader, as shown on Exhibit A-1.
- The undersigned warrants and represents that s/he has been granted full power and authority form the governing body of the Obligor to enter into this Addendum, and that the Obligor has fulfilled all applicable legal requirements, procedural or otherwise, prior to entering into this Addendum.
- 3. Except as modified by this Addendum Number One, the Contract remains in full force and effect, with the Equipment listed on Exhibit A-1 being the collateral now serving as security for the Contract. No other modification or addendum of the Contract shall be effective unless it is in writing and signed by the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Obligor and Obligee have caused this Addendum to be duly executed by their respective officers who have signed below.

Town of Hudson, New Hampshire

Signature Lisa Labrie, Finance Director Printed Name and Title

Date

KS StateBank

Signature Jaymie Paavola-Luckert, Vice President Printed Name and Title

Date

EXHIBIT A-1 (REVISED OCTOBER 2022)

DESCRIPTION OF EQUIPMENT

RE: Government Obligation Contract dated as of May 16, 2022, between KS StateBank (Obligee) and Town of Hudson, New Hampshire (Obligor)

Below is a detailed description of all the items of Equipment including quantity, model number and serial number where applicable:

One (1) Komatsu WA320-8 Wheel Loader

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Physical Address of Equipment after Delivery : 2 Constitution Dr., Hudson, NH 03051

		NOV 1 6 2022	
	M	NOV 1 6 2022	
کر	TOWN OF HU	IDSON TOWN OF HUDSON	
5	FIRE DEPARTM		
1	39 FERRY STREET, HUDSON, NEV	V HAMPSHIRE 03051	G
L_;	±~~~>	COPPORATED T	
Emerg Busine		Scott J. Tice Chief of Department	
Fax	603-594-1164		
TO:	Kara Roy		
	Chairperson, Board of Selectmen		
FR:	Scott J. Tice		
DT:	November 14, 2022		
RE:	November 22, 2022 BOS Public Agenda		

Please place the following item on the above-indicated agenda from the Fire Department.

Attached you will find a letter of resignation from Firefighter/AEMT Andrew Perkins effective 0800 on November 27, 2022.

Firefighter Perkins joined the department in January of 2014. We are grateful for his service over the past eight years and appreciate all that he has contributed during his tenure with us.

We ask the Board of Selectman to accept his letter of resignation and we wish him well as he continues his career with the Franklin Fire Department.

Motion #1:

To accept the letter of resignation from Firefighter/AEMT Andrew Perkins effective 0800 on November 27, 2022 with the Board's thanks and appreciation.

Motion #2: To authorize the Fire Chief to advertise the Firefighter position. 11/1/2022

To: Chief Scott Tice

Good afternoon,

I am writing to notify my notice of resigning the role of Firefighter-AEMT for the Hudson Fire Department. Tentatively the date will be November 27, 2022 at 08:00 pending the answer of Kathy Wilson about health insurance coverage for the month of December in which we spoke about during our in person meeting. Kathy returns from her time off after I am away on vacation possibly making my 2 week notice not feasible as I do not return until November 12, 2022. I can write another letter once the answer is given.

I have worked in this position for almost 9 years and have been very fortunate to learn and grow as a person. I thank everyone involved in my tenure here.

Thank you,

andrew Perkins)

Andrew Perkins

n

11/14/2022

To Chief Scott Tice

I am writing to confirm my last day for employment for the Town of Hudson is November 27, 2022. Kathy Wilson confirmed the insurance will be covered through 12/31/2022. I thank you for all the opportunities and helping me grow in my career.

andrew Perpens

Andrew Perkins

	NO	CEIVED V 1 6 2022	
}	TOWN OF HUDSON FIRE DEPARTMENT 39 FERRY STREET, HUDSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03	MEN'S OFFICE	BH
Emerge Busines Fax		Scott J. Tice Chief of Department	
	Kara Roy Chairperson, Board of Selectmen		
	Scott Tice		
DT:	November 14, 2022		
RE:	November 22, 2022 BOS Public Agenda – Walmart Grant Accepta	nce	

The Fire Department is requesting permission to accept a local community grant sponsored by Walmart.

On November 8, 2022 the department was notified that we were awarded a \$2,000.00 grant through Walmart's Community Grants program.

Motion:

To authorize the Fire Chief to accept the Community Grant sponsored by Walmart in the amount of \$2,000.00 as recommended by the Fire Chief.



Stephen A. Malizia, Town Administrator – smalizia@hudsonnh.gov – Tel: 603-886-6024 Fax: 603-598-6481

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator

Date: November 10, 2022

Re: Release of Discretionary Easement – 274 Lowell Road

Attorney Andrew Prolman has a client buying properties located at 274 and 280 Lowell Road. The title report for 274 Lowell Road finds a Discretionary Easement to the Town of Hudson recorded as Book 3159, Page 0269 at the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds on May 18, 1984. The easement expired on April 1, 1988. The underwriter at the title company has suggested that a recordable release from the Town be obtained in order to provide a clean title. Attorney Prolman has prepared the attached Release of Discretionary Easement. Attorney Lefevre has reviewed the matter and the Release and it looks proper to him and he has no issues with the request. Should the Board of Selectmen vote to sign the Release of Discretionary Easement, the following motion is appropriate:

Motion: To sign the Release of Discretionary Easement granted by Hebert Brown and Charlene Brown to the Town of Hudson, dated February 21, 1984, as recorded at the Hillsborough County Registry of Deed at Book 3159, Page 0269.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

From: Malizia, Steve <<u>smalizia@hudsonnh.gov</u>> Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 10:51 AM To: aprolman <<u>aprolman@prunierlaw.com</u>> Subject: RE: Release of Easement Request

Attorney Prolman,

Please prepare the release. I'll have the Town Attorney Dave Lefevre review it and if it's acceptable, I'll ask the Selectman to sign it.

Regards,

Steve

From: aprolman <<u>aprolman@prunierlaw.com</u>> Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2022 12:53 PM To: Malizia, Steve <<u>smalizia@hudsonnh.gov</u>> Cc: David Lefevre <<u>dlefevre@tarbellbrodich.com</u>>; Laffin, Jill <<u>ilaffin@hudsonnh.gov</u>> Subject: Release of Easement Request

EXTERNAL: Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi Steve. I hope all is well with you.

I have a client buying 274 & 280 Lowell Road. My title report finds an unusual "no development" easement in favor of the Town. Please see attached. Even though this easement appears to have expired on April 1, 1988, my underwriter at Chicago Title suggests a better safe than sorry approach by obtaining a recordable release from the Town. How do I make this request? I'd be happy to prepare the release, but first I'd like to know how best to get on an agenda to get this moving.

Thanks.

Andy

Andrew A. Prolman Prunier & Prolman, P.A. 20 Trafalgar Square, Suite 100 Nashua, NH 03063 (603) 883-8900 (603) 883-7959 (Fax) aprolman@prunierlaw.com

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May 17 10 28 AM '84

4 8 4 3 9 TOWN OF HUDSON DISCRETIONARY EASEMENT

That (1) Herbert Brown and Configne Brown, (granter, hereinafter named) of 275 Lowell Bord, McGoor, NH hereby conveys to the Town of Hudson (town hereinafter named) pursuant to RSA 79-A:15-21 of the statutes of New Hampshire, as amended, by easement on the land described below, all the granter's rights to subdivide, develop, or otherwise change the use of said described land to any more intensive use to the extent that it would be inconsistent with the purpose of said Chapter 79-A, of the New Hampshire statutes, on the conditions that:

- A. the said land will be assessed at a value of \$ 50.00 per acre, and a total of \$ 330.00 for the full 5.5 acres involved, such assessed value for tax purposes to be continued for the full term of this easement which shall be for a period of <u>ren years</u> (10) years, beginning with the taxable year starting April 1, <u>1970</u>;
- B. the said Town will not exercise or allow others to exercise such development rights except as granted upon demonstration of extreme personal hardship pursuant to RSA 79-A:19; and
- C. the easement shall be a burden upon the land and shall bind all transferees and assignees of such land. An easement granted pursuant to this subdivision shall not be assigned, transferred or released by a town without the consent of the owner, except as provided by RSA 79-A:20.

 751
 509

 The subject land is described as follows: Vol. No.1040
 Page No. 152

 Tax No.
 4254
 Hap No. 2

 Property Location:
 275 Lowell Cord. Hudson, NH

 Category:
 Upmappined forest and face land

Witness my hand and seal, this 71.54 day of in the year 1984 Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of 21. Vitness Doll

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE Hillsborough, SS. Charlene Brown Personally appeared the above owners and acknowledged that they voluntarily executed the within instrument for the purposes

Town

of Hudwon,

2-21-84

therein stated 7.0 - Carlos Justice of Peace

3159 780269

22

Witness

Pursuant to RSA 79-A and the recommendation of the Planning Board of the

Witness

1tness

said Town hereby accepts the above easement.

ect

TOWN OF HUDSON RELEASE OF DISCRETIONARY EASEMENT

The Town of Hudson, a New Hampshire municipal corporation with a business address of 12 School Street, Hudson, New Hampshire, by and through its Board of Selectmen, hereby releases the Discretionary Easement granted by Hebert Brown and Charlene Brown to the Town of Hudson, dated February 21, 1984, as recorded at the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds at Book 3159, Page 269.

Dated: November ____, 2022

Town of Hudson, New Hampshire Board of Selectmen

Kara Roy, Chairperson

Bob Guessferd, Vice Chairman

David S. Morin, Selectman

Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

Brett Gagnon, Selectman



- To: Board of Selectmen
- From: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator
- Date: November 15, 2022
- Re: Warrant Article L Funding for Benson Park Renovation Capital Reserve Fund

At their meeting on October 20, 2022, the Benson Park Committee voted to approve a request for a warrant article to add \$10,000 to the existing Benson Park Renovation Capital Reserve Fund. The voters approved a warrant article at the 2022 Town Meeting for the same amount. After the Haselton Barn Roof Replacement project, the fund currently has a balance of \$62,504. Should the Board vote to forward the warrant article to the warrant, the following motion is appropriate:

Motion: To move Warrant Article L, Funding for Benson Park Renovation Capital Reserve Fund to the warrant.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Warrant Article L

Funding for Benson Park Renovation Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town of Hudson vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 which will be added to the Benson Park Renovation Capital Reserve Fund previously established in March 1998? The appropriation is in addition to Article _____ the Operating Budget.

1-190 nd4 11-22-22

Town of Hudson

Revenues and Expenditures

Through October 31, 2022

				Town	of Hudson, NH					
					is and Revenue Summ	arv				
					: As of October 31, 20					
			Budget	Prior Year	Budget and	Available	Expended		Balance	2
State #	Dept #	Department	FY 2023	Encumbered	PY Adjustmts	Appropriation	To Date	Encumbered	Available	Expende
01	General Fund				1					
4199	5020	Trustees of Trust Funds	2,875	0	59	2,934	949	0	1,985	32
4195	5025	Cemetery Trustees	1,250	0	0	1,250	0	0	1,250	(
4140	5030	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	410,019	0	319	410,338	138,423	10,777	261,137	30
4140	5041	Moderator	30,045	17,000	0	47,045	27,547	0	19,498	55
4140	5042	Supervisors of The Checklist	6,286	3,851	0	10,137	4,299	0	5,838	4
4199	5050	Town Treasurer	8,074	0	0	8,074	2,691	0	5,383	33
4199	5055	Sustainability Committee	1,300	0	0	1,300	243	0	1,057	19
4520	5063	Benson Park Committee	1,100	0	0	1,100	34	0	1,066	1
4199	5070	Municipal Budget Committee	800	0	0	800	0	0	800	0
4140	5077	IT - Town Officers	4,170	0	0	4,170	0	0	4,170	(
4199	5080	Ethics Committee	100	0	0	100	0	0	100	(
		Town Officers	466.019	20,851	378	487,248	174,187	10,777	302,284	38
						··· í				
4130	5110	Board of Selectmen/Administrat	391,769	0	9,037	400,806	114,468	48	286,290	25
4194	5115	Oakwood	2,275	0	0	2,275	968	0	1,307	43
4194	5120	Town Hall Operations	97,324	0	2,800	100,124	34,994	170	64,960	3:
4442	5151	Town Poor	80,000	0	(15,000)	65,000	7,900	0	57,100	12
4130	5177	IT - Town Administration	800	0	0	800	0	1,914	(1,114)	239
1100		Administration	572,168	0	(3,163)	569,005	158,331	2,132	408,542	28
		1 KAN111444 K = KAV14					,			
4153	5200	Legal	136,560	3,750	0	140.310	20,224	47,157	72,929	48
		- mallen								
4150	5310	Finance Administration	204,957	0	(4,109)	200,848	71,992	9,683	119,173	41
4150	5320	Accounting	306,966	0	7,576	314,542	97,688	4,449	212,406	32
4150	5377	IT - Finance	2,250	320	0	2,570	385	111	2,074	19
1100		Finance	514,173	320	3,467	517,960	170,065	14,243	333,652	36
.=		P halfan sa Anfr								
4150	5330	Information Technology	748,638	7,274	0	755,912	260,924	4,681	490,307	3
4150			110,000	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1				.,		
	- U	Information Technology	748,638	7,274	0	755,912	260,924	4,681	490,307	35
		BY.	/							
4152	5410	Assessing Department	475,265	114,821	(2,945)	587,141	170,092	55,515	361,533	3
4152	5477	IT- Assessing	14,650	0	(5,325)	9,325	0	0	9,325	
		Assessing	489,915	114,821	(8,270)	596,466	170,092	55,515	370,858	31
4312	5515	Public Works Facility	59,903	0	10,146	70,049	35,532	6,850	27,667	6
4312	5551	Public Works Administration	296,458	0	4,818	301,276	107,302	0	193,974	3
4312	5552	Streets	3,216,180	0	467,498	3,683,678	1,911,669	387,425	1,384,584	6
4312	5553	Equipment Maintenance	506,133	0	0	506,133	196,947	12,628	296,558	4
4312	5554	Drainage	697,327	0	0	697,327	244,919	850	451,558	3
4522	5556	Parks Division	239,836	0	0	239,836	118,442	4,993	116,401	5
4312	5577	IT - Public Works	4,290	0	0	4,290	1,803	144	2,343	4
		Public Works	5,020,127	0	482,462	5,502,589	2,616,613	412,891	2,473,085	55

				Town	of Hudson, NH					
				Appropriation	ns and Revenue Sumn	ary			19 19	-
				Month Ending	: As of October 31, 20)22			····	
			Budget	Prior Year	Budget and	Available	Expended		Balance	
State #	Dept #	Department	FY 2023	Encumbered	PY Adjustmts	Appropriation	To Date	Encumbered	Available	Expend
4191	5277	IT - LUD	6,300	0	0	6,300	326	169	5,805	
4191	5571	LUD - Planning	261,433	6,575	25,628	293,636	100,488	807	192,341	3
4191	5572	LUD - Planning Board	8,350	0	0	8,350	106	0	8,244	
4191	5581	LUD - Zoning	218,863	0	2,677	221,540	67,893	634	153,013	
4191	5583	LUD - Zoning Board of Adj	16,500	0	0	16,500	4,325	9,904	2,272	1
4311	5585	LUD - Engineering	419,252	5,420	1,544	426,216	133,099	8,339	284,778	
		Land Use	930,698	11,995	29,849	972,542	306,237	19,852	646,453	3
4210	5610	Police Administration	354,001	80	716	354,797	90,828	12,885	251,084	2
4210	5615	Police Facility Operations	287,854	916	3,524	292,294	84,067	15,436	192,791	
4210	5620	Police Communications	827,190	0	0	827,190	278,908	0	548,282	
4210	5630	Police Patrol	7,285,316	36,019	0	7,321,335	2,224,854	292,746	4,803,736	
4210	5640	Investigations	14,420	0	0	14,420	2,304	2,424	9,692	
4414	5650	Animal Control	133,559	0	0	133,559	40,283	988	92,288	
4210	5660	Information Services	194,189	0	0	194,189	58,815	8	135,365	
4210	5671	Support Services	88,023	695	19,012	107,730	52,697	1,369	53,664	
4210	5672	Crossing Guards	58,755	0	0	58,755	12,269	0	46,486	
4210	5673	Prosecutor	376,297	0	0	376,297	80,166	1,485	294,646	
4210	5677	IT - Police	93,629	3,637	0	97,266	57,126	7,251	32,888	
		Police	9,713,233	41,348	23,252	9,777,832	2,982,317	334,593	6,460,923	
4220	5710	Fire Administration	782,246	0	13,139	795,385	240,263	20,628	534,494	
4220	5715	Fire Facilities	142,009	0	0	142,009	52,927	16,915	72,167	
4220	5720	Fire Communications	432,845	91,278	0	524,123	155,490	74,244	294,390	
4220	5730	Fire Suppression	6,049,329	70,868	(21,079)	6,099,118	2,237,859	61,556	3,799,703	
4220	5740	Fire Inspectional Services	508,051	0	26,838	534,889	138,405	2,873	393,611	
4220	5765	Fire Alarm	3,746	0	0	3,746	190	68	3,488	
4220	5770	Emergency Management	86,368	22,000	0	108,368	24,098	4,164	80,106	
4220	5777	IT - Fire	36,506	2,425	0	38,931	21,091	1,920	15,920	
		Fire	8,041,100	186,571	18,898	8,246,569	2,870,323	182,368	5,193,879	
4500	6910	Recreation Administration	178,081	0	0	179.001	43,504	269	134,309	
4520	5810	Recreation Administration	66,122	0	0	178,081	25,098	410	40,614	
				0	0	120,063	87,100	410	32,963	
4520	5821	Supervised Play	120,063	0		120,003	3,940	49	8,253	
4520	5824	Ballfields	12,242	0	0	12,242	3,940	49	0,233	
4520 4520	5825		12,366	0	0	12,366	0	0	12,366	
	5826	Lacrosse	52,604	0	0	52,604	1,748	237	50,619	
4520	5831	Basketball			0		9,440	2,816	1,058	
4520	5834	Soccer	13,314	0	0	13,314	19,740	2,816	42,719	
4520	5835	Senior Activities Operations	62,629	0	0	62,629	19,740	185	1,253	
4520	5836	Teen Dances	1,500			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		26	5,367	
4520	5839	Community Activities	7,060	0	0	7,060	1,667		· · _ ·	
4520	5877	IT - Recreation	7,065	0		7,065	1,353	1,522	4,190	
		Recreation	533,046	0	0	533,046	193,651	5,684	333,711	

				Тоул	of Hudson, NH						
					and Revenue Summ	INTY	· · · ·				
	· · · · <u>· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · </u>				: As of October 31, 20						
			Budget	Prior Year	Budget and	Available	Expended		Balance	%	
State #	Dept #	Department	FY 2023	Encumbered	PY Adjustmts	Appropriation	To Date	Encumbered	Available	Expende	
						[
4196	5910	Insurance	\$55,850	0	0	555,850	555,493	0	357	100	
4199	5920	Community Grants	90,484	0	0	90,484	86,649	0	3,835	96	
4583	5930	Patriotic Purposes	5,600	0	0	5,600	4,100	0	1,500	73	
4199	5940	Other Expenses	161,569	9,650	0	171,219	17,773	0	153,446	10	
4220	5960	Hydrant Rental	276,971	0	0	276,971	92,323	0	184,648	33	
4321	5970	Solid Waste Contract	2,095,828	0	0	2,095,828	524,170	1,573,554	(1,896)	100	
		Non-Departmental	3,186,302	9,650	0	3,195,952	1,280,509	1,573,554	341,889	89	
	General Fund Appropr	detine Partereal	30,351,979	396,580	546,873	31,295,431	11,203,472	2,663,447	17,428,512	44.3	
	General Fund Appropr		30,331,977	570,560	340,673	31,693,431	11,203,472	2,003,447	17,420,512	- 44.3	
	Warrant Articles										
4194	6013	Generator Replace/Repair	30,000	0	0	30,000	30,000	0	0	100	
4199	6061	Admin & Support Contract	57,781	0	(57,781)	0	0	0	0	0	
4901	6015	Widening Lowell Rd from Wase	0	1,317,930	0	1,317,930	21,916	1,296,014	0	100	
4901	6032	Development of Benson Proper	10,000	0	0	10,000	10,000	0	0	100	
4152	6040	Future Prop. Revaluation CRF	25,000	0	0	25,000	25,000	0	0	100	
4220	6057	Fire Apparat Refub & Repr CR	25,000	0	0	25,000	25,000	0	0	100	
4210	6073	Estab. Police Safety Equipment	100,000	0	0	100,000	100,000	0	0	100	
4326	6095	Vaccon Truck Cap Rsrv Fund	15,000	ő	0	15.000	15,000	ő	0	100	
4903	6210	Police Facility Expan and Reno	5,928,980		0	5,928,980	0	5,928,980	0	100	
4915	6201	Commun Equip & Infrast CRF	0	51,350	0	51,350	30,100	21,250	0	100	
4909	6212	Taylor Falls & Veteran Bridge I	0	11,241	0	11,241	11,241	30,000	(30,000)	367	
4199	6318	Energy Efficiency CRF	25,000	0	0	25,000	25,000	0	0	100	
0000	6434	Operating Transfer to Library	25,000	0	0	0	257,128	0	(257,128)	100	
0000	6436	Operating Transfer to Cons Co.	0	0	0	0	0	0	(257,128)	100	
0000	General Fund Warrs		6,216,761	1,380,521	(57,781)	7,539,501	550,385	7,276,244	(287,128)	100	
	General Fund Trains		0,210,701	1,500,521	(57,7017)	1,559,501	550,565	1,270,244	(207,120)		
	General Fund Tota	l Budget	36,568,740	1,777,100	489,092	38,834,932	11,753,857	9,939,691	17,141,384	569	
				5,7 1,7 10	,						
02	Sewer Fund	1									
4326	5561	Sewer Billing & Collection	168,854	0	2,803	171,657	86,913	10,466	74,278	57	
4326	5562	Sewer Operation & Maintenanc	1,169,611	15,318	0	1,184,929	243,059	568,037	373,832	68	
4326	5564	Sewer Capital Projects	800,000	0	0	800,000	1,970	205,600	592,430	26	
4326	6095	Vaccon Truck Cap Rsrv Fund	15,000	0	0	15,000	15,000	0	0	100	
		Sewer Fund	2,153,465	15,318	2,803	2,171,586	346,942	784,103	1,040,540	52	
03	Water Fund										
4332	5591	Water - Administration	300,685	638	3,576	304,899	138,335	26,621	139.943	54	
4332	5592	Water - Ops & Maintenance	1,731,889	5,500	3,370	1,737,389	394,836	841,450	501,103	7	
4335	5593	Water - Supply	1,396,108	0	0	1,396,108	679,287	524,174	192,647	80	
4332	5594	Water - Debt Service	1,193,906	0	0	1,193,906	91,953	524,174	1,101,953		
	777	Water Fund	4,622,588	6,138	3,576	4,632,302	1,304,411	1,392,245	1,935,647	58	
		** =+*** #* (111)4	4,044,000	0,130	3,370	206,200,0	IIF(PUC(1	1,374,443	1996	20	
tal General, Sewer	r. Water Funds		43,344,793	1,798,556	495.471	45.638.820	13,405,210	12,116,039	20,117,571	56	
		1		100000	1709771		1014001010	~~;110;007		50	

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				Town	n of Hudson, NH					
				Apprepriatie	ns and Revenue Sumn	nary				
					g: As of October 31, 20					
			ļ							
			Budget	Prior Year	Budget and	Available	Expended		Balance	1
State #	Dept #	Department	FY 2023	Encumbered	PY Adjustmts	Appropriation	To Date	Encumbered	Available	Expend
					-					
			Budgeted		Supplemental	Adjusted		Use of Fund		
			Revenue		Budget	Revenue	Revenues	Balance	Balance	
	General Fund Reven	lue	32,210,013		500,652	32,710,665	9,621,421	0	23,089,245	29
						· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		· <u></u> [
	Sewer Fund Revenue	e	2,242,825		0	2,242,825	763,999	0	1,478,826	341
								1		
	Water Fund Revenu	e	3,871,994		0	3,871,994	1,541,724	0	2,330,270	401
Fotal General, Sewe	r, Water Funds Reven	ue	38,324,832	0	500,652	38,825,484	11,927,144	0	26,898,341	31*
		1								
Other Funds										
			Budget	Prior Year	Budget and	Available		İ	Balance	•/
State #	Dept #	Department	FY 2023	Encumbered	PY Adjustmts	Appropriation	Expended To Date	Encumbered	Available	Expende
04	5060	Library	1,182,077	0	0	1,182,077	316,734	0	865,343	279
05	5598	Land Use Change Tax Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	09
06	5586	Conservation Commission	52,753	39,155	0	91,908	22,521	19,311	50,076	465
06	6500	Purchase Property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	09
14	5630	Police Forfeiture Fund	0	22,575	0	22,575	22,575	0	0	09
35	5845	Senior Activities Revolving Fun	0	51,244	0	51,244	27,594	55,372	(31,722)	1629
45	5045	Community TV Revolving Fund	0	0	4,021	4,021	113,282	2,200	(111,462)	1009
50	5750	EMS Revolving Fund	422,997	0	0	422,997	93,777	201,001	128,219	705
		Other Funds	1,657,827	112,975	4,021	1,774,823	596,484	277,885	900,454	499
				323						
		(ARPA)	Budget	Prior Year	Budget and	Available			Balance	*/
State #	Dept #	Department	FY 2023	Encumbered	PY Adjustmts	Appropriation	Expended To Date	Encumbered	Available	Expende
44	7200	Flagstone Drainage Infrast.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	09
44	7201	Lowell Rd Bridge/Rd Infrast	0	3,745	0	700,000	16,885	0	683,115	09
44	7203	West Rd Trns Stn Infrast	0	169,802	0	550,000	140,844	5,000	404,156	09
44	7204	Seagrave Fire Truck Added	0	0	0	77,539	77,539	-	0	05
			0	173,547	0	1,327,539	235,268	5,000	1,087,271	01
			Budgeted		Supplemental	Adjusted		Use of Fund		
			Revenue		Budget	Revenue	Revenues	Balance	Balance	
	Senior Activities Re	volving Fund	0			0	33,492		(33,492)	0
	Community TV Rev	olving Fund	0			0	78,268		(78,268)	0
	EMS Revolving Fur	ad l	423,322			423,322	100,001		323,321	0
Fotal Expenditures	All Funds		45,002,620	2,085,077	499,492	47,413,642	14,001,694	12,393,924	21,018,025	56

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ReportSortedRevenue All

Account Number		Est Rev	MTD Rev	YTD Rev	Balance	%Coll
Genera	l Fund					
01-0000-4913-000-000	Transfer from Land Use Change Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
01-0000-4914-000-000	Library Revenue	9,675.00	0.00	0.00	9,675.00	0.000
01-3110-4100-000-000	General Property Taxes	21,316,634.00	0.00	0.00	21,316,634.00	0.000
01-3110-4101-000-000	Overlay	-185,000.00	0.00	-31,352.40	-153,647.60	16.947
01-3185-4120-000-000	Yield Taxes and Interest	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.000
01-3186-4115-000-000	In Lieu of Taxes	12,816.00	0.00	0.00	12,816.00	0.000
01-3189-4121-000-000	Excavation Activity Tax	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.000
01-3189-4127-000-000	Boat Tax	7,000.00	0.00	1,803.14	5,196.86	25.759
01-3190-4203-000-000	Charges on Property Taxes	5,000.00	185.01	1,633.02	3,366.98	32.660
01-3190-4204-000-000	Interest on Property Taxes	160,000.00	4,058.63	29,534.39	130,465.61	18.459
01-3220-4201-000-000	Motor Vehicle Permits	5,420,000.00	563,075.50	1,984,698.00	3,435,302.00	36.618
01-3230-4216-000-000	Certificate of Occupancy Permit	15,000.00	900.00	4,400.00	10,600.00	29.333
01-3230-4218-000-000	Building Permits	275,000.00	27,220.34	84,299.17	190,700.83	30.654
01-3230-4381-000-000	Septic Inspection Fees	6,000.00	300.00	1,400.00	4,600.00	23.333
01-3290-4209-000-000	Excavation Permits	5,000.00	80,08	380.00	4,620.00	7.600
01-3290-4214-000-000	Driveway Permits	2,000.00	100.00	650.00	1,350.00	32.500
01-3290-4217-000-000	Health Permits	0.00	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.00
01-3290-4221-000-000	Pistol Permits	4,000.00	30.00	100.00	3,900.00	2.50
01-3290-4233-000-000	Oil Burner/Kerosene Permits	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
01-3290-4238-000-000	Police Alarm Permit	2,800.00	135.00	735.00	2,065.00	26.25
01-3290-4239-000-000	Fire - Place of Assembly	2,000.00	240.00	550.00	1,450.00	27.500
01-3290-4254-000-000	Fire Alarm Permits	1,500.00	225.00	591.50	908.50	39.43
01-3290-4312-000-000	Zoning Application Fees	3,000.00	511.00	3,598.20	-598.20	119.940
01-3290-4313-000-000	Planning Board Fees	120,000.00	1,670.70	184,554.46	-64,554.46	153.79
01-3290-4315-000-000	Sewer Service Permit	3,000.00	25.00	875.00	2,125.00	29.16
01-3290-4321-000-000	UCC Filings	7,000.00	0.00	0.00	7,000.00	0.00
01-3290-4322-000-000	Vital Statistics	7,000.00	1,370.00	5,999.00	1,001.00	85.70
01-3290-4323-000-000	Police Fines, Court	133.00	0.00	233.00	-100.00	175.18
01-3290-4325-000-000	Animal Control Fines/Fees	8,000.00	453.00	11,288.00	-3,288.00	141.100
01-3290-4326-000-000	Notary Fees	100.00	0.00	0,00	100.00	0.000

Run: 11/09/22 11:59AM

Revenue Report Month End Revenue Town of Hudson, NH As Of: October 2022, GL Year 2023

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All

Account Number		Est Rev	MTD Rev	YTD Rev	Balance	%Coll	
01-3290-4327-000-000	Parking Violation Fees	2,000.00	0.00	40.00	1,960.00	2.000	
01-3290-4328-000-000	Street Acceptance/Opening Fee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	
01-3290-4334-000-000	Construction Inspection Fee	15,000.00	0.00	9,105.00	5,895.00	60.700	
01-3290-4335-000-000	Animal Boarding Fees	1,100.00	25.00	300.00	800.00	27.273	
)1-3290-4343-000-000	Copy Fees and Sale of Books	1,500.00	48.00	128.00	1,372.00	8.533	
)1-3290-4347-000-000	Bad Check Fees	2,500.00	100.00	437.14	2,062.86	17.486	
01-3290-4356-000-000	Police False Alarm Fines	10,000.00	1,800.00	4,550.00	5,450.00	45.500	
01-3290-4421-000-000	Marriage Licenses	4,000.00	-504.00	1,190.00	2,810.00	29.750	
01-3290-4422-000-000	Hawker/Peddler License	1,000.00	0.00	255.00	745.00	25.500	
)1-3290-4427-000-000	Articles of Agreement	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	
01-3290-4428-000-000	Pole Licenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	
01-3290-4430-000-000	Scrap Metal License	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	
01-3290-4450-000-000	Animal Control Licenses	18,000.00	367.50	3,528.50	14,471.50	19.603	
01-3290-4451-000-000	Drain Layers License	1,000.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	50.000	
01-3351-4840-000-000	Shared Revenue - Municipal Aid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	
01-3352-4841-000-000	Shared Revenue - Meals and Rental Tax Distribution	1,291,333.00	0.00	0.00	1,291,333.00	0.000	
01-3353-4610-000-000	Shared Revenue - Highway Block Grant	1,007,408.25	166,969.39	801,407.03	206,001.22	79.551	
01-3359-4656-000-000	Grants - Police	42,876.80	21,529.53	57,984.89	-15,108.09	135.236	
01-3359-4657-000-000	Grants - Fire	485,910.00	72,098.70	72,098.70	413,811.30	14.838	
01-3359-4659-000-000	Grants - Other	10,000.00	3,200.00	45,629.87	-35,629.87	456.299	
01-3359-4660-000-000	Grants - Pandemic	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	
01-3379-4300-000-000	Sewer Utility Admin Fee	44,000.00	0.00	44,000.00	0.00	100.000	
01-3379-4301-000-000	Water Utility Admin Fee	66,000.00	0.00	66,000.00	0.00	100.000	
01-3401-4324-000-000	Police Record Fees	7,000.00	933.00	2,967.00	4,033.00	42.386	
01-3401-4342-000-000	Sale of Checklists	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.000	
01-3401-4708-000-000	Welfare Reimbursement	1,000.00	0.00	12,631.91	-11,631.91	###.###	
01-3401-4716-000-000	Cash Over/Short	0.00	0.00	-73.95	73.95	0.000	
01-3401-4720-000-000	Police Outside Detail	150,000.00	23,298.91	92,452.90	57,547.10	61.635	
01-3401-4729-000-000	Contracted Services - Litchfield	30,000.00	7,119.76	7,119.76	22,880.24	23.733	
01-3401-4730-000-000	Ambulance Billings	422,000.00	0.00	100,089.25	321,910.75	23.718	
01-3401-4731-000-000	Charges on Ambulance Receivables	-22,000.00	0.00	-7,256.19	-14,743.81	32.983	

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All

Account Number		Est Rev	MTD Rev	YTD Rev	Balance	%Coll
01-3401-4732-000-000	Fire Incident Reports	500.00	198.00	381.00	119.00	76.200
01-3401-4745-000-000	Cable Franchise Fees	77,000.00	0.00	19,566.99	57,433.01	25.412
01-3401-4746-000-000	Police Testing and Application Fees	0.00	70.00	70.00	-70.00	0.000
01-3401-4748-000-000	Insurance Reimbursement	99,990.00	1,875.00	9,990.00	90,000.00	9.991
01-3401-4756-000-000	Misc Rev - Police	500.00	0.00	5,928,355.00	-5,927,855.00	###.###
01-3401-4757-000-000	Misc Rev - Fire	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.000
01-3401-4758-000-000	Misc Rev - Recreation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
01-3401-4759-000-000	Misc Rev - Other	500.00	2,404.67	8,016.26	-7,516.26	###.###
01-3401-4761-000-000	Rec Rev - Basketball	38,720.00	-65.00	-65.00	38,785.00	-0.168
01-3401-4762-000-000	Rec Rev - Supervised Play	141,825.00	0.00	23,250.86	118,574.14	16.394
01-3401-4763-000-000	Rec Rev - Flag Football	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
01-3401-4764-000-000	Rec Rev - Soccer	20,000.00	0.00	3,235.00	16,765.00	16.175
01-3401-4765-000-000	Rec Rev - Tennis	4,950.00	0.00	0.00	4,950.00	0.000
01-3401-4766-000-000	Rec Rev - Teen Dances	4,400.00	0.00	0.00	4,400.00	0.000
01-3401-4767-000-000	Rec Rev - Adult Softbali	8,840.00	0.00	-85.00	8,925.00	-0.962
01-3401-4768-000-000	Rec Rev - Lacrosse	7,500.00	0.00	0.00	7,500.00	0.000
01-3401-4769-000-000	Rec Rev - Community Activities	11,000.00	0.00	0.00	11,000.00	0.000
01-3501-4704-000-000	Sale of Town Property	55,000.00	0.00	0.00	55,000.00	0.000
01-3502-4702-000-000	Bank Charges	-10,000.00	-330.00	-2,524.69	-7,475.31	25.247
01-3502-4703-000-000	Interest on Investments	261,000.00	7,048.37	20,389.24	240,610.76	7.812
01-3503-4373-000-000	Rents of Town Property	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.000
01-3508-4556-000-000	Donations - Police	2,851.01	0.00	537,00	2,314.01	18.835
01-3508-4557-000-000	Donations - Fire	3,303.40	2,500.00	2,500.00	803.40	75.680
01-3508-4558-000-000	Donations - Recreation	0.00	0.00	3,100.00	-3,100.00	0.000
01-3508-4559-000-000	Donations - Other	0.00	1,200.00	3,600.00	-3,600.00	0.000
01-3914-4996-000-000	Voted from Surplus	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
01-3915-4922-000-000	From Capital Reserve Fund	575,000.00	0.00	0.00	575,000.00	0.000
01-3939-4999-000-000	Use of Fund Balance	600,000.00	0.00	0.00	600,000.00	0.000
Totals	General Fund	32,710,665.46	912,466.01	9,621,420.95	23,089,244.51	29.414

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All

Account Number		Est Rev	MTD Rev	YTD Rev	Balance	%Coll
Sewer	Fund					
02-3190-4180-000-000	Interest on Sewer Utility	20,000.00	378.17	8,633.15	11,366.85	43.166
02-3190-4181-000-000	Sewer Betterment Interest	728.00	0.00	0.00	728.00	0.000
02-3401-4716-000-000	Cash Over/Short	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
02-3401-4759-000-000	Misc Rev - Other	0.00	0.00	207.14	-207.14	0.000
02-3403-4780-000-000	Sewer Base Charges	560,000.00	141,071.41	282,074.75	277,925.25	50.370
02-3403-4781-000-000	Sewer Consumption Charges	581,086.00	189,623.93	338,314.95	242,771.05	58.221
02-3409-4783-000-000	Sewer Capital Assessment Other Chg	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.000
02-3500-4773-000-000	Otarnic Pond Betterment Assessment	24,911.00	0.00	0.00	24,911.00	0.000
02-3500-4782-000-000	Sewer Capital Assessment	50,000.00	2,540.00	135,122.00	-85,122.00	270.244
02-3502-4702-000-000	Bank Charges	-3,000.00	0.00	-328.35	-2,671.65	10.945
02-3508-4561-000-000	Donations - Sewer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
02-3509-4786-000-000	Sewer - Other Income/(Expenses)	0.00	0.00	-25.00	25.00	0.000
02-3915-4922-000-000	From Capital Reserve Fund	870,000.00	0.00	0.00	870,000.00	0.000
02-3939-4999-000-000	Use of Fund Balance	124,000.00	0.00	0.00	124,000.00	0.000
02-4915-4915-000-000	To Capital Reserve Fund - Sewer	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.000
Totals	Sewer Fund	2,242,825.00	333,613.51	763,998.64	1,478,826.36	34.064

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Account Number		Est Rev	MTD Rev	YTD Rev	Balance	%Coll
Water	Fund					
03-3190-4794-000-000	Interest on Delinquent Accounts	10,000.00	0.00	451.68	9,548.32	4.517
03-3290-4394-000-000	Backflow Testing Fees	25,000.00	95.00	7,410.00	17,590.00	29.640
03-3290-4395-000-000	Water Hookup Fee	25,000.00	200.00	10,560.00	14,440.00	42.240
03-3290-4396-000-000	Water Service Fees	12,000.00	95.00	1,839.00	10,161.00	15.325
03-3290-4397-000-000	Shutoff/Reconnect Fee	8,500.00	0.00	1,125.00	7,375.00	13.235
03-3401-4716-000-000	Cash Over/Short	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
03-3401-4748-000-000	Insurance Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
03-3401-4759-000-000	Misc Rev - Other	0.00	0.00	1,088.22	-1,088.22	0.000
03-3402-4390-000-000	Rental Fee - Private Hydrant	64,000.00	5,434.10	21,736.40	42,263.60	33.963
03-3402-4391-000-000	Rental Fee - Public Hydrant	78,000.00	6,496.20	25,984.80	52,015.20	33.314
03-3402-4392-000-000	Public Fire Protection	224,000.00	19,480.15	77,920.60	146,079.40	34.786
03-3402-4790-000-000	Water Base Charges	960,000.00	81,994.91	327,511.62	632,488.38	34.116
03-3402-4791-000-000	Water Usage Charges	2,173,994.00	191,538.60	998,908.30	1,175,085.70	45.948
03-3402-4792-000-000	Fire Access Charges	204,000.00	16,584.67	66,338.68	137,661.32	32.519
03-3402-4799-000-000	Water Sales to Pennichuck	80,000.00	0.00	0.00	80,000.00	0.000
03-3502-4702-000-000	Bank Charges	-2,500.00	0.00	0.00	-2,500.00	0.000
03-3509-4793-000-000	Other Income - Water	10,000.00	225.00	850.00	9,150.00	8.500
03-3915-4922-000-000	From Capital Reserve Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
Totals	Water Fund	3,871,994.00	322,143.63	1,541,724.30	2,330,269.70	39.817

Run: 11/09/22 11:59AM		Revenue Report Month End Revenue Town of Hudson, NH As Of: October 2022, GL Year 2023		6 Revenue		
Account Number		Est Rev	MTD Rev	YTD Rev	Balance	%Coll
Sr Ac	tivities Revolving Fund					
35-3401-4735-000-000	Misc Rev - Senior Activities	0.00	2,610.00	6,215.00	-6,215.00	0.000
35-3401-4736-000-000	Membership Fees	0.00	480.00	4,990.00	-4,990.00	0.000
35-3401-4737-000-000	Senior Rev - Field Trips	0.00	3,314.60	22,286.60	-22,286.60	0.000
Totals	Sr Activities Revolving Fund	0.00	6,404.60	33,491.60	-33,491.60	0.000

Run: 11/09/22 11:59AM		Revenue Report Month End Revenue Town of Hudson, NH As Of: October 2022, GL Year 2023		Page: 7 bmckee ReportSortedRevenue All		
Account Number		Est Rev	MTD Rev	YTD Rev	Balance	%Coll
Comr	nunity TV Revolving Fund					
45-3401-4745-000-000	Cable Franshise Fees	0.00	0.00	78,267.94	-78,267.94	0.000
Totals	Community TV Revolving Fund	0.00	0.00	78,267.94	-78,267.94	0.000

Run: 11/09/22 11:59AM		Revenue Report Month End Revenue Town of Hudson, NH As Of: October 2022, GL Year 2023		8 Revenue		
Account Number		Est Rev	MTD Rev	YTD Rev	Balance	%Coll
EMS	Revolving Fund					
50-0000-4729-000-000	EMS - Contracted Services	15,000.00	7,119.75	7,119.75	7,880.25	47.465
50-0000-4730-000-000	EMS - 50% Ambulance Billings	430,322.00	0.00	100,089.26	330,232.74	23.259
50-0000-4731-000-000	EMS - 50% Charges on Amb Billings	-22,000.00	0.00	-7,207.94	-14,792.06	32.763
Totals	EMS Revolving Fund	423,322.00	7,119.75	100,001.07	323,320.93	23.623

TOWN OF HUDSON AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION BY MONTH FISCAL YEARS 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

	July Augus	<u>1 September Oct</u>	<u>ober November</u>	December	Ist half <u>Fiscal Year</u>	January	<u>February</u>	March	<u>April M</u>	ay June	2nd half <u>Fiscal Year</u>	Actual Fiscal Year Total	Budget Fiscal Year Total
FY2018	\$345,710 \$427,9		3,016 \$371,576 4.8% 42.7%	\$453,830 52.3%	\$2,458,875 52.3%	\$582,567 64.7%	\$460,122		\$402,980 \$543 93.1% 10	4,7% \$507,592	\$2,970,108 63.2%	\$5,428,983 vs. Budget	\$4,700,000 115.5%
vs. Budget FY2019	7.4% 16.5 \$429,067 \$457,7			\$454,133	\$2,667,448		\$504,668		\$561,605 \$51		\$3,066,993	\$5,734,441	\$5,000,000
vs. Budget	8.6% 17.7	% 25.5% 3	4.8% 44.3%	53.3%	53.3%	64.0%	74.1%	83.0%	94.2% 10	4.5% 114.7%	61.3%	vs. Budget	114.7%
FY2020	\$437,974 \$485,1	33 \$410,994 \$53	0,162 \$446,610	\$470,237	\$2,781,159	\$638,551	\$515,784	\$416,309	\$331,136 \$452	2,398 \$ 745,339	\$3,099,517	\$5,880,675	\$5,420,000
vs. Budget	8.1% 17.0	% 24.6% 3	4.4% 42.6%	51.3%	51.3%	63.1%	72.6%	80.3%	86.4% 9	4,7% 108.5%	57.2%	vs. Budget	108.5%
FY2021	\$516,858 \$430,0	94 \$461,725 \$49	4,524 \$440,822	\$489,084	\$2,833,106	\$542,186	\$502,930	\$627,048	\$523,883 \$51	3,796 \$571,111	\$3,285,953	\$6,119,060	\$5,420,000
vs. Budget	9.5% 17.5	% 26.0% 3	43.2%	52.3%	52.3%	62.3%	71.6%	83.1%	92.8% 10	2.4% 112.9%	60.6%	vs. Budget	112.9%
FY2022	\$433,575 \$488,9	88 \$450,479 \$50	4,693 \$429,947	\$435,191	\$2,742,872	\$536,311	\$513,594	\$552,932	\$539,268 \$52	8,792 \$551,548	\$3,222,444	\$5,965,316	\$5,420,000
vs. Budget	8.0% 17.0	% 25.3% 3	42.6% 42.6%	50.6%	50.6%	60.5%	70.0%	80.2%	90.1% 9	9.9% 110.1%	59.5%	vs. Budget	110.1%
FY2023	\$462,768 \$505,3	96 \$453,460 \$56	3,076		\$1,984,699						\$0	\$1,984,699	\$5,420,000
vs. Budget	8.5% 17.9	% 26.2% 3	36.6%		36.6%						0.0%	vs. Budget	36.6%

TOWN OF HUDSON GENERAL FUND INTEREST BY MONTH FISCAL YEARS 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

	July	August	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	November	December	1st half <u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	March	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	June	2nd half <u>Fiscal Year</u>	Actual Fiscal Year Total	Budget Fiscal Year Total
FY2018	\$14,877	\$14,656	\$7,236	\$4,331	\$9,647	\$6,947	\$57,694	\$16,560	\$18,741	\$14,208	\$15,488	\$19,596	\$16,919	\$101,512	\$159,206	\$25,000
vs. Budget	59.5%	118.1%	147.1%	164.4%	203.0%	230.8%	230.8%	297.0%	372.0%	428.8%	490.8%	569.1%	636.8%	406.0%	vs. Budget	636.8%
FY2019	\$0	\$45,557	\$38,553	\$27,494	\$0	\$46,686	\$158,289	\$45,246	\$52,094	\$42,049	\$0	\$66,149	\$19,534	\$225,072	\$383,361	\$120,000
vs. Budget	0.0%	38.0%	70.1%	93.0%	93.0%	131.9%	131.9%	169.6%	213.0%	248.1%	248.1%	303.2%	319.5%	187.6%	vs. Budget	319.5%
FY2020	\$0	\$42,580	\$39,013	\$33,695	\$24,052	\$13,649	\$152,989	\$6,066	\$35,128	\$32,541	\$8,141	\$5,937	\$21,179	\$108,992	\$261,981	\$361,000
vs. Budget	0.0%	11.8%	22.6%	31.9%	38.6%	42.4%	42.4%	44.1%	53.8%	62.8%	65.1%	66.7%	72.6%	30.2%	vs. Budget	72.6%
FY2021	\$0	\$0	\$12,143	\$ 0	\$0	\$3,909	\$16,052	\$0	\$611	\$210	\$204	\$198	\$142	\$1,365	\$17,417	\$261,000
vs. Budget	0.0%	0.0%	4.7%	4.7%	4.7%	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	6.4%	6.5%	6.5%	6.6%	6.7%	0.5%	vs. Budget	6.7%
FY2022	\$147	\$147	\$195	\$350	\$175	\$102	\$1,115	\$96	\$86	\$388	\$1,460	\$2, 602	\$3,060	\$7,691	\$8,806	\$20,000
vs. Budget	0.1%	1.5%		4.2%	5.1%	5.6%	5.6%	6.1%	6.5%	8.4%	15.7%	28.7%	44.0%	38.5%	vs. Budget	44.0%
FY2023	\$3,546	\$ 4,916	\$ 4,878	\$7,048			\$20,389							\$0	\$20,389	\$261,000
vs. Budget	1.4%	3.2%	5.1%	7.8%			7.8%							0.0%	vs. Budget	7.8%



To: Board of Selectmen

From: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator

Date: November 15, 2022

Re: Right to Know Committee Public Hearing

Chairperson Roy has requested that an item be added to the Board of Selectmen's agenda to discuss a possible hearing for the proposed Right to Know policy.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.



- To: Board of Selectmen
- From: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator
- Date: November 15, 2022
- Re: FY 2024 Out of Budget Requests Discussion

Chairperson Roy has requested that an item be added to the Board of Selectmen's agenda to discuss adding an agenda item at the Town Deliberative Session to discuss the Fiscal Year 2024 Out of the Budget Requests that the Board added to the FY2024 proposed budget.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

		Fiscal Year 20	24 Outside the Budget Requests		
					Тах
				Increase of	Impa
Dept #	Dept Name	<u>Description</u>	Project		
5330-412	IT	Software	Purchase Email server software	15,000	0.0
5552-262	Public Works	Line Stripping	Lane stripping and marking	35,000	0.0
5552-304	Public Works	Gasoline	Increase from \$2.65 to \$3.08 per gallon	10,750	0.0
5552-305	Public Works	Diesel	Increase from \$2.65 to \$4.21 per gallon	54,600	0.0
5552-308	Public Works	Road Salt	Increase in per ton price	118,800	0.0
5554-221	Public Works	Equipment Rental	Contract Service for Catch Basin Cleaning	30,000	0.0
5554-403	Public Works	Small Equipment	Four 1 ton trucks split with 5552 and 5562	72,000	0.0
5554-406	Public Works	Drainage Construction	Design & Construct stormwater BMP's	20,000	0.0
5571-100	Planning	Salaries & Benefits	Hire Associate Planner	113,351	0.0
5585-225	Engineering	Engineering Fees	Robinson Pond Design & Construction	75,000	0.0
5730-404	Fire	Trucks	Replace two staff vehicles	20,490	0.0
				546,991	0.1
					cent
			Before Outside the Budget Requests	33,119,228	\$4.9
			Final with Outside the Budget Requests	33,666,219	\$5.0