

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of the May 23, 2017 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Luszey the meeting of May 23, 2017 at 7:06 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman Coutu.
3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Ted Luszey, Marilyn McGrath (arrived at 7:17), Roger Coutu, Angela Routsis, David Morin

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Rob Buxton, Fire Chief; Jim Barnes, Chairman of Benson Park Cte

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Luszey asked if anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time.

Don Delisle from Flying Crusher, LLC. At the last Board meeting you guys approved to sell me the property at 4 Bridle Bridge Road. I'm just here to try to expedite the process. I don't know if everyone is aware that there were some title issues and we haven't closed on the property because we're waiting to see if the town is going to clear the title. I'm anxious to get going and I'm here to answer any questions or do what I can do to speed the process up. It seems though I call my lawyer, he calls your lawyer, then he talks to you. It takes 3 to 4 days for them to get back and nothing has been resolved.

Steve Malizia indicated late last week we learned that there was a mortgage that was recorded somewhere in 1980. It was never discharged. It was never discovered during our - when I say "our", I'm talking our Tax Collector's lien process. So that has to be cleared. So what I understand that takes is quiet title more than likely because I'm not sure they can find this individual as the mortgage. That process will take whatever it takes in the courts. I instructed our lawyer to work with that and that's the most we can do about it.

Mr. Delisle asked can we close on the property with the agreement that the town will quiet the title? Mr. Malizia said we have to talk to our attorney because you're at risk potentially. If this person comes back and puts a claim into the property, you could be at risk.

Selectman Coutu said point of order. We as a board have no control over this. In all fairness to the Chairman and to the other members of the Board, we're at a legal process. I understand your anxiety about this property. Probably more than all of the others. I have the utmost of confidence in our Attorney and our Town Administrator. We want to sell this property to you. We agreed to sell it to you. This is not the forum to be discussing this. You brought it to our attention. The Town Administrator knows it's been brought to our attention. I'm sure he will discuss it with our attorney and they will try to expedite this as quickly as the system allows them to. You've been involved in a lot of these things. You know sometimes things take a little longer when legalese is involved. In this case, there's some legalese involved.

Don Delisle asked if the town had any objection - I understand this is going to take up to 90 days if I went in and started cleaning the property beforehand. Again Selectman Coutu said that's an item that needs to be discussed between our attorney and you or your attorney. Mr. Malizia indicated I will speak to our attorney tomorrow and we'll make sure we get in touch with him to see what we could work out.

Zachary Phillips My name is Zachary Phillips - 7 Hickory Street, Hudson.

Timothy Hennighausen - 14 Cedar Street, Hudson. It's the Birchcroft neighborhood. We have petitioned the neighborhood to get the speed limit reduced from 30 mph to 20 mph. Again Selectman Coutu noted we have a Safety Committee. Were you advised that you go before the Safety Committee which comprises of the Road Agent, Police Chief, member of the Planning Board, and Town Engineer? Mr. Malizia indicated basically the safety officials. They meet every other month. Selectman Coutu said I've been this process in my own neighborhood and I appeared before the Safety Committee with regard to another citizen petition. They're very fair. They listen to the reasons why and they'll adjudicate it for you. If you have the two of you any other persons that can come to give reason why, that would be the board to handle it. If they find against you, do they have any appeal? I don't think so. That's the committee we appointed to manage our roads, mileage and speed limit.

Ken Holton. I'll give it shot maybe I'm the right guy. My name is Ken Holton, 14 Breakneck Road, Hudson. I'm here representing the Estate of Phyllis W. Holton. I'm on the agenda. I don't know if you need us to talk now or...Steve Malizia indicated they're on the agenda for the unmerger of lots. It will be the first new business item.

5. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

A. Interviews

- 1) Municipal Utility Committee - 2 vacancies - 1 member term to expire 4/30/18; 1 member term to expire 4/30/20

Chelsea Leonard

Hello - Chelsea Leonard of 6B April Court, Hudson. I went to UMASS Lowell. Graduated with a Bachelors in Science and Criminal Justice and a minor in legal studies. In the fall I'm going to be pursuing my Masters in Economic and Industrial Security again at UMASS Lowell. I currently work at a law firm in Nashua. I'm a Paralegal there and I mostly focus on condominium law, State planning, probate law, and some real estate law. Prior I worked at an energy and water company Veolia Water and I had some experience with the litigation there. I'm interested in 1) just joining town government. I'm a recent resident to Hudson. I'd like to get to know more about the town, get involved and I think that I could maybe utilize some of my legal skills and be helpful.

Selectman Coutu asked you've listed two boards of interest. One of is the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the one you're appearing for now the Municipal Utility Committee. Are you interested in serving on both or just one of the two? Ms. Leonard said I found out that I recently had a conflict with joining the Zoning Board just because one of the attorneys at our office frequently sends in requests. I don't think that it would be appropriate for me to be on that board just because if anything came in from office I wouldn't feel comfortable voting on it.

Formally Selectman Coutu asked are you asking us to remove the Zoning Board consideration. Okay thank you. The Municipal Utility Committee have you ever watched any of their meetings or attended any meetings? Ms. Leonard said I have not no. Donna Graham advised that they're not televised. Ms. Leonard indicated I've read some of the minutes on line and I've caught up that way. Selectman Coutu asked if you were to take the position if it were offered to you, there are two vacancies and they're both full voting member terms would you be more interested in serving to April of 2018 or April of 2020. Ms. Leonard said either one but I'd be interested in serving the three full year term.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Chelsea Leonard as a member to the Municipal Utility Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2020, carried 4-0.

- 2) Senior Affairs Committee - 3 vacancies - 2 member terms to expire 4/30/20; 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/20

Nancie Caron (incumbent member)

Selectman Coutu asked at what point - I went through the agenda to see if we were going to have a discussion because we have not had a discussion. I thought we were going to have one prior to this. Chairman Luszey said you're absolutely right. What I asked Ms. Graham to do was send an e-mail to Steve Porter to invite him here this evening. We did not get a response back. I didn't think it was appropriate to do it this one. If the Board is okay with it, we'll table this one and we will have that conversation at our first regular meeting with or without Mr. Porter.

- 3) Zoning Board of Adjustment - 2 vacancies - 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/17; 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/20

Chelsea Leonard (withdrawing - has a conflict)

Chairman Luszey asked to let the record show that Selectman McGrath is here at 7:17 p.m.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Luszey asked if any Board member wished to remove any item for separate consideration. I would like to point out that in Item C. sub item 6 a raffle permit has been added and that is the Hudson Police Relief Association which you have on your desk.

Selectman Routsis indicated I need to abstain from C. 6.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to approve consent items A, B, C 1-5, D, E and F as noted or appropriate, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Morin, to approve Consent Item 6. C. 6.

Selectman Coutu wanted the public to be aware. It was a last minute submission by Selectman Routsis who will be abstaining this evening. I think everybody in town knows the story of what happened to Josh Keller. There has been a need that has arisen for the family and I wholeheartedly support and I endorse and I will be at the VFW Post on Bockes Road in Hudson on June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5 to 9 p.m. I won't be there at 5 but I'll be there at 6 because I love pasta. I'll be there for the spaghetti dinner and to assist in any way that I can the Keller family and I hope everyone else will as well. Call it a shameless plug but I love the Keller family and I hope that Angela is very successful with this fundraiser. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Vote: Motion carried, carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Elderly Exemption - Map 153, Lot 017 - 11 Cheney Drive, w/recommendation to deny
- 2) Solar Exemptions - Map 162, Lot 003 - 9 Commercial Street; Map 167, Lot 044 - 5 Bonnie Lane; Map 198, Lot 116 - 6 Rhona Street; Map 236, Lot 018 - 6 Stable Road; Map 159, Lot 024 - 79 Greeley Street, w/recommendation to grant
- 3) Elderly Exemptions - Map 142, Lot 041 - 4 Hilltop Drive; Map 174, Lot 107 - 44 Highland Street, w/recommendation to grant
- 4) All Veteran Tax Credit - Map 171, Lot 054 - 64 Clement Road, w/recommendation to grant
- 5) Veteran Tax Credit - Map 149, Lot 001, Sub 077 - 57 Glasgow Circle, w/recommendation to grant
- 6) Requalification of Elderly Exemptions - Map 147, Lot 017, Sub 025 - 6 Lexington Court; Map 183, Lot 122 - 6-8 Sheraton Drive; Map 190, Lot 096 - 1 Riverview Street; Map 216, Lot 018, Sub 065 - 23B Quail Run Drive; Map 165, Lot 141, Sub 224 - 224 Abbott Farm Lane; Map 149, Lot 001, Sub 034 - 19 Glasgow Circle; Map 148, Lot 017 - 155 Derry Road; Map 148, Lot 040, Sub 080 - 45 Riviera Road; Map 246, Lot 030 - 2 Fairway Drive; Map 178, Lot 013, Sub 100 - 22 Mobile Drive; Map 174, Lot 118 - 70 Highland Street, w/recommendation to grant requalification

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Abatement - S-UTL-17-17 - 25 Cottonwood Drive, w/recommendation to approve

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Raffle Permit - Hudson Historical Society - Spring Gala
- 2) Raffle Permit - Hudson Historical Society - Lumberjack Show
- 3) Raffle Permit - Friends of Benson Park
- 4) Outdoor Gathering Permit - Hudson Historical Society - Spring Gala
- 5) Petition and Pole License - #298/72S, 298/82Y, 298/82, 298/74S, 298/75Y - for 5 new poles located on Robinson Road

D. Donations - None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the May 9, 2017 meeting

F. Calendar

- |       |      |   |
|-------|------|---|
| 05/25 | 7:30 | Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 05/29 |      | MEMORIAL DAY - TOWN HALL CLOSED                   |
| 06/01 | 6:30 | Recreation Cte - BOS Meeting Room                 |
| 06/01 | 7:00 | Benson Park Cte - HCTV Meeting Room               |
| 06/06 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room             |
| 06/08 | 7:00 | Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 06/12 | 7:00 | Conservation Cmsn - Buxton CD Meeting Room        |
| 06/13 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room             |
| 06/14 | 7:00 | Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room             |
| 06/15 | 7:00 | Benson Park Cte - HCTV Meeting Room               |
| 06/20 | 7:00 | Cable Utility Cte - HCTV Ctr.                     |
| 06/20 | 7:00 | Municipal Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room          |
| 06/21 | 7:00 | Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room             |
| 06/21 | 7:30 | Senior Affairs Cte - HCTV Ctr.                    |
| 06/22 | 3:00 | Trustees of Trust Fund - Buxton CD Meeting Room   |
| 06/22 | 7:30 | Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 06/26 | 7:00 | Sustainability Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room       |

06/27 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room  
06/28 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room

- 7. OLD BUSINESS - None
- 8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Involuntarily Merged Lots Pursuant to RSA 674:39-aa, Map 103, Lot 005 - 55 Boyd Road

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia and applicant Ken Holton.

Steve Malizia stated you have an application in front of you for the restoration of involuntarily merged lots pursuant to RSA 674:39 aa. Mr. Holton who represents the Estate of Phyllis Holton, the owner of the property identified in the lots that were involuntarily merged, when we got the application all the land use folks - John Cashell, Bruce Buttrick, and Jim Michaud...

Ken Holton had one clarification. 55 Boyd Road that is actually owned by Roy E. Holton and I don't represent him in any way. I'm just representing the Estate. Somehow that got co-mingled.

Mr. Malizia understood that there's three lots that were involuntarily merged. That's what we're looking to unmerge. Again it's been through the land use folks. They did a physical inspection. They poured through the records. We also ran it by Attorney Lefevre. There's no evidence that this was every voluntarily merged therefore it's an application to unmerge involuntarily merged lots. The board has the ability to restore those to the pre-involuntary merger status which is what Mr. Holton is asking for. I've included all the documentation that we've unearthed on this case.

Selectman Coutu stated I reviewed this particular packet because we have set precedent. There is State law that allows us to do this. I think the evidence is quite clear that I don't find any difference between this and the other one we approved in the past. Therefore I'd like to make a motion.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Moring, to approve the application for the restoration of Map 103, Lot 005 as three (3) separate lots of record. This action is taken pursuant to NH RSA 674:39-aa, carried 5-0.

B. Comstar Billing Contract

Chairman Luszey recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Chief Buxton said we're here tonight for your consideration to renew the three year contract with Comstar who is our billing agency. Steve Malizia, myself and Kathy Carpentier sit every other month with Comstar to review our disposition report and practices. This year we've had a relationship with them since the mid-1990s. We've moved our process forward with electronic billing instead of mailing packages back and forth. We saw some efficiencies. We have also in this contract bring in a reduced rate for them. They go from a 6 percent rate to a 5 percent rate. That's approximately a \$7,000 savings to the town. Last year we had approximately a \$44,000 compensation package for that company for our collections.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to authorize the Board of Selectmen Chairman to sign the ambulance billing and collection services agreement between the Town of Hudson, NH, and Comstar effective June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2020, carried 5-0.

C. Adoption of Ambulance Disposition Policy

Chairman Luszey recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Along with the renewal of the contract for Comstar, the same committee that I spoke of reviewed our disposition policy which was put into place in 2015. We are bringing to the Board the potential of hiring a company outside of Comstar which is called "First Financial Resources". They work with ambulance services and they are basically a collection agency. If that is a route that the Board would be interested in going forward with. I've provided you with a copy of their policies and their contract and bring it to you for consideration.

Selectman Coutu asked what is their commission rate on delinquent accounts. Chief Buxton indicated 33 1/3 percent. Selectman Coutu asked could you tell me Chief off the top of your head approximately how much money from last year did we have outstanding. So when we talk about delinquent accounts, Chief Buxton believed we looked at approximately \$168,000 of delinquency. They project that they will recover over a number of years approximately 30 percent of that. Then they take 33 1/3 percent on top of that. So we're not talking about a whole host of compensation here.

Selectman Coutu asked has that number increased over the past few years. Chief Buxton stated no. In 2015 when we put the committee together, we brought forward a disposition policy to you. So we work these each month. The Town Administrator, myself and the Finance Director sit and review and you've basically given us the authority to manage that account whether it's a deceased and no estate, or a homeless person, or those type of things. The Town Administrator also has the ability under the hardship piece of that to manage that. Those were all new pieces of the program that were put into place so we managed that. That \$160,000 has remained consistent through the year.

Selectman Coutu noted you're saying to me that we are going to continue the practice that we established relative to dealing with hardship cases and taking them one at a time, and that those that we are going to be sending to this collection agency will be those that we feel quite confident have the ability to pay in some fashion. Steve Malizia stated they've been through three billing cycles. Again I'm not vetting them to see if they have an ability to pay. They've not made a request for a hardship. So one could presume that they have an ability. If you don't have an ability, there is a hardship disposition. Comstar lets them know what it is. The Chief would let them know if they called him. I'd let them know. I don't get a lot of them but I do get some of them and I follow the federal poverty guidelines which the Board laid out for me to do. If they don't file for that, I have no way of knowing if they can or can't afford something. I can only go by what they submit to me.

Chairman Luszey thought there's another factor that's going to begin to play in that. We probably should have a discussion on that is the high deductible insurance policies. Chief correct me if I'm wrong. This is about collecting the ambulance bill from the insurance company. If I have a high deductible, it's now coming out of me. If I'm a taxpayer in Hudson and I'm already paying for that service, why am I getting billed? I'm having difficulty understanding why a taxpayer would now be hit with a penalty if you will because if they don't pay this ambulance bill and it goes through this process, Experian is now going to put a bad credit check on their credit profile. Is that correct Chief? Chief Buxton said that is part of it. Chairman Luszey said we're in some new territory I think that we need to fully explore.

Chief Buxton said currently under our practice and our disposition policy, you've already authorized the ability for us to report to Experian. If the debt goes uncollected, we already report it to the Experian folks and that credit hit is already taking place. This is the next step where they would actually go after and contact them to try to recover that debt. When the debt is cleared up, it comes off of their credit report.

Chairman Luszey stated I got that but the number of high deductible health insurance policies are becoming more common place than not. Two years ago that wasn't the case now it is.

Selectman Morin said on Chairman Luszey's comments. What's the ratio between residents and non-residents that haven't paid? Chief Buxton indicated you asked that question when we talked earlier today Selectman Morin. When we review the disposition report each month, I would say that there is a large percentage of that that is actually outside of the Town of Hudson. Basically whether it's a mutual aid call or they don't even live in town that is on our report that goes uncollected. That is a piece of that formula. I have expressed to the Chairman as I see the high deductible plans getting more and more popular, we're going to see more residents actually paying that bill. No different than we still carry a contract with Anthem. They pay us directly. If you don't have a contract with them, they actually pay the patient who then turns around and pays the bill. So you're chasing money in a three legged horse versus a straight payment to the town. Those types of things make it more difficult to manage. I believe that this territory is some place that we're going to continue to go over the next few years.

Regarding the taxation, Chief Buxton thought that no different than your water you're paying, you're paying a piece for access to the system and then you pay for the usage on the backside. No different than you paying access to the water system and then you pay for your usage afterwards. I believe that this is an option that we needed to bring to the Board for consideration. As we expressed to Selectman Coutu, I don't believe we're talking about a whole host of new revenues coming in but we're trying to show that we're doing our due diligence so that comes off our books and we're not carrying it in uncollectible debt.

Selectman Routsis wanted to say in regards to the high deductible plans, it's something I carry because it's cheaper for me up front out of pocket but it's also when the ambulance gets billed to that insurance company, they have a set rate. SO they might bill \$6,000. The agreed upon rate is say \$2,000 and then their deductible is a portion of that. My ambulance was \$7,500. The amount allowed to be billed was \$2,500. I'm responsible for 10 percent of that towards my deductible. So it's not the whole \$2,500. It's a portion of it. Chairman Luszey said that's not necessarily true on all plans. My high deductible I'm responsible for the first \$6,000 period. I don't care what it is. Selectman Routsis said the person is choosing that high deductible plan. An unfortunate accident may happen but how do you decide who does and doesn't.

Chairman Luszey indicated I got that but what really is being questioned here is for the person in town that's a taxpayer are we penalizing them because they're paying for the ambulance service through just like their fire and just like their police. The revenues that we get through the ambulance is an offsetting revenue. If we didn't charge for it, it would be still charging us pretty much the same that he's charging us now for the fire emergency service. For residents where it's a double taxation.

Selectman McGrath wasn't here when the policy was established to actually bill the residents for ambulance service. Can someone explain to me why we ever enacted that policy? Steve Malizia said it was 1967 and I don't know if any of us were here but I'm presuming at some point in time. In 1967 was when we enacted the policy and I can only presume that they probably realized that it was a cost to the taxpayer and they thought it be more appropriate to bill the actual person using the service. If we removed all the ambulance revenue, it would add \$.32 to the tax rate for everybody because that's about \$800,000. It's about \$.32 on the tax rate. That ambulance revenue - and it's not all collected from just residents - it's collected from whoever uses it. People from out of town use it and mutual assist. Chairman Luszey said what's that proportion because nothing would say we cannot charge non-residents and not charge the residents.

Selectman McGrath asked to use an analogy that makes sense to me. If we didn't charge the residents that use the service and we added the \$.32 per thousand. Steve Malizia noted if you own a \$200,000 home, that's \$40. Just so Selectman McGrath could get a hold of this and understand it, that's similar to the school system. I don't have any children. I'll never have children. I'll never put children through the school system but my taxes still pay for that. Ambulance service isn't used by everyone either. It's only used by a certain number of the population and it depends on - I had the sad misfortune of having to call for ambulance service. I've got to say I never thought that I would say this to be completely honest. I never thought I'd have to ever call for an ambulance but they were wonderful to me. They treated me with kindness, and with respect, and with concern. I have maybe a different outlook on the service that they provide to the residents. I'm fortunate I have insurance so that my billing wasn't extraordinary. I guess in light of adding that money to the tax roles for everyone wouldn't make sense at this point.

Selectman Morin indicated you have to look a little bit at history. In 1957 we were paying Nashua to provide the service. When I started in '84, there was a flat fee. Now if you look at the services, they're providing defibrillator, IVs, drugs, and things of that nature. That all has to be paid for in some way. Back in the day basically when I started we were putting on band-aides, wrapping them up, and taking them to the hospital. Now it is so much different and there's so much better care they provide. To keep that service, it's going to cost something and we should try to keep up with that.

Chief Buxton said I did a quick shout out to some area Fire Chiefs and said where are you at ambulance billing and are you conducting collections. The collection piece was about a 50/50 split. Most communities have a very generous hardship as we do. If you put the application in with the poverty piece and they give you that ability. Our rates are significantly lower by some 100s to sometimes thousands of dollars less than some of our area communities. When I look at an ALS level call which would be a cardiac monitor, or IV therapy, those sorts of things, we're billing out at approximately \$1,500 to that activity. A community very close to us is billing out at \$3,000. What we have done is we have customarily kept our billing rates very low. We're at Medicare rate plus 50 percent. That as a big move for the Board a few years back to make that jump. Basically that was because the Medicare rate had not been adjusted over several years and we were following further and further behind in our collectibles. We manage this every day. One of the pieces with the FFR is we make the decision internally. We'll review those files before they get sent off. So we'll be making sure that they've received their three bills. They've been given the opportunity to come in and pay, or make a payment, or those types of things. I think it is something that due diligence wise we need to take a look at and go down that path.

Selectman McGrath asked if a resident called you and said I just got a bill for ambulance service and I can't afford this. I'm having difficulty buying food or whatever the issue is would you guide them towards the programs that are available to assist them? Chief Buxton said sure. The experience I would give you, and this goes back to the high deductibles, is we get residents that are actually paying that bill for the first bill. They're actually getting a bill versus this is not a bill statement. This is a statement of services. We've had a few phone calls that have come in. I've brokered them off to the Town Administrator regarding the hardship policy and that paperwork. We've put them in contact with Comstar who said okay maybe you can't afford the whole thing this month. You've got the Medicare rate that gets paid and then they pay off the rest. So we've put them in that process. The elderly services sometimes will give them some counseling in how to handle those things which is done through our EMS Coordinator. So there are some options. Selectman McGrath said you do guide them to those programs. Thank you.

Selectman Coutu stated I'm hearing some conflict here relative to whether or not we should continue to bill out ambulance service in the Town of Hudson basically is what it boils down to. Chairman Luszey noted the residents. Selectman Coutu said to the residents of Hudson - I would think that before we even would entertain that we need to get a legal opinion as to whether or not we can create a rule that would allow us not to charge a local resident but would allow us to charge someone who...Steve Malizia said at a minimum you'd have to change the ordinance because this is all by ordinance. There's an ordinance that underlies this billing. Presumably you'd have to change the ordinance and then I'm not sure you can differentiate between...Selectman Coutu didn't think so either.

Chairman Luszey asked is it an ordinance or a policy because this says policy. Steve Malizia said no we have an ordinance and then we enact policies in order to effectuate that ordinance. In other words, you need policies. How do we handle hardship? How do we handle collection? How do we handle billing? You have an ordinance that was established in 1967 to bill the cost of the ambulance to the users. Now right now it doesn't differentiate. If you were to try to differentiate, I'm not sure what the legal basis of that is. I'm not saying you can't. I'm not saying you can. I don't know.

Selectman Coutu stated another concern that I have is I've heard the word "taxpayer" bandied about. A very subjective term. When you look at a taxpayer, who is a taxpayer? Is a homeowner a taxpayer? More than likely yes. Is a rent payer a taxpayer? Absolutely. It's pretty much any resident of the Town of Hudson. If we were to change the ordinance, we'd get free ambulance service. However I have some consternation about whether or not we can legally charge one population and not charge the other. I think that would have to be looked into. How much would you say - ambulance service obviously is number one use of our Fire Department when you look at it realistically and we're not the only ones. Most communities our size or smaller, they're primary activity is emergency medical services to the residents and/or visitors or whoever gets in an accident or is in town and gets or is injured.

Let me ask you another question. Relative to drug usage in the Town of Hudson. Have you found that most recently, and by most recently I would say the past six months, that the cost of emergency medical care to drug abusers has increased, decreased, or stabilized? Chief Buxton indicated I received a report and I actually made the comment in my month report this month that I received a report from the EMS Director who basically put me on notice that she's seen our activities actually increasing a little bit with the new carfentanyl that has hit the street and the straight fentanyl. We've actually been using more dosages to basically bring the patients back. So we've seen an increase in service and an increase in the cost of providing that service.

Selectman Coutu said the reason why I ask is I've read reports to the contrary but based on what I know firsthand from the Town of Hudson. It would appear to me that the number of incidents have increased and not decreased. I hear the calls - drug overdose is the term that's usually used on the radio and whether they're conscious or unconscious and I have no problem with that. I just find it puzzling that I've read statements that in New Hampshire the rates are decreasing when in fact I know that we are not...Chief Buxton noted we're in a very, very tough location from the avenue that you look at. We directly about the City of Nashua and we are a travel thru way to the City of Manchester. We're in a very tough location. We're close to Lowell and Lawrence.

Selectman Coutu said we've been this route before where we talked about this is not the first time we've had this conversation about whether or not we should or shouldn't be billing ambulance services to our residents, what the impact would be to everyone else, and we're going to hear the same arguments that Selectman McGrath a little too which well I don't have kids in the school why should I pay. It's all part of making your municipality more valuable and more attractive. We attract an awful lot of people because of our school system I guess and certainly because of the services we offer. You go to Pelham, New Hampshire, they don't pick up rubbish and they have a much higher tax rate than we do. They're roadways are in dire way of a lot of repair. We're trying to stay on top of it but hopefully the Road Agent is here, we're catching up on our road repair compared to what we had in the past. We have a long way to go. You have a plan and we're working it. I'd hate to go down this path one more time but we either need to sit down and have a serious discussion about whether we're going to pursue non-billing versus billing once and for all and get this behind us. I know you've brought it up a couple of times Mr. Chairman not in an adversarial way because I think there are other people out there that share your concerns. I hear it both ways. I said \$640. It's \$64 more per year not \$640 more per resident. With the escalating costs of everything else that's going on in town, I thought that we were handling this exceptionally well. The billing process, the collections, dealing with hardship cases. I've heard no complaints. I don't think you have either. If it ain't broke, why are we trying to fix it? That's my opinion. Chief Buxton said we're not trying to break it. Selectman Coutu said not you, we the Board of Selectmen. You have to obviously be involved in conversation if you go that route. To me the process isn't broken and we as a Board shouldn't be meddling into it unless you have objection.

Selectman Routsis thought regardless of at another time we speak to our attorney see what he says. We have to implement something to get that money that we are not able to collect and that's what this is going to give us the opportunity to do. We can at a future point if we wanted as Selectman Coutu said meddle with it, we could get an opinion from our attorney. Tonight is just to see for those we currently have. Do we want to have a collection agency help us with it regardless of whether we bill residents of the town or not doesn't change whether we need a collection agency or not.

Chairman Luszey didn't disagree with anything you said. I do have a comment about the school analogy. It is not the same. What this does is the residents of Hudson whether they own property or they rent are paying a tax to fund an emergency service. Just like everyone is funding to use school. If a parent sends a child to school, they don't get a separate bill for using a school. Here we do get a separate bill for using the ambulance service. That's what's different about this. The second thing that's different about this is it's not so much the collection if it goes to the agency, it could possibly degrade their credit score which is extremely important today. That's the issue that is giving some residents heartburn and that's what caused me to have this whole conversation.

Selectman Routsis noted this may be I don't know a type of comment but most people that are going to this agency aren't concerned about their credit because they're already late. They would have called us and said can I make a payment arrangement. They would have called us and said hey I need a hardship. The people that are getting three statements from us, getting phone calls from us, given the opportunities, these people that are going to this particular place are the ones that are unresponsive, not getting back to us. These are the ones that...

Chairman Luszey said to hold on if I may. We're setting ourselves up for a catch 22 come real soon. We give out elderly exemptions. Guess who talks to me about these? Elderly people that have elderly exemptions. We exempt them from paying a certain portion of their property tax and then we say oh by the way if you use our medical services, we're going to whack you.

Selectman Routsis indicated we also say hey here's a bill. If they call, we say here's a hardship program.

Chairman Luszey indicated all I'm doing is bringing forward comments and we can do what we want.

Two things. Selectman Morin stated if we got to the talking about not charging residents at this point you have a tax. I get that. Everybody pays a tax. If you use the ambulance, you get an additional bill. If we don't charge our residents, everybody is going to get with the additional bill anyway. My second question is to the Chief. Talking to other departments that do this, what have they had for problems? Have they run into anything you're hearing tonight? Chief Buxton said the First Financial Resources has probably one of the cleanest complaint percentages that we've heard of. We brought this into individual in at least twice to sit down and meet with us face to face. I've talked to a couple of organizations that have used them. They have no complaints. It is external to their billing cycle. Any complaint that comes in goes right back to Comstar and they act as the intermarry between us and put us on notice. At that point in time, we have the ability to either pull the file or maintain the file. The maintenance of the file is 110 percent in the town's control. If somebody ended up going to collection and then at the end of it they got the first letter from the collection agency and said I want to file for a hardship, we have the ability to pull the file back. The bulk of the time the folks that are going to collection are folks that just have not responded - have not called at all. They've received three bills in the mail and there's no phone call. I can tell you when I look across our collection rate, we're at 96 percent collected for insured patients. The 20 percent that we get reduced down to 80 percent is uninsured or self-pay insured - meaning some of the high deductibles. That's a new group that we actually started tracking this past year. Our collection rate is probably one of the higher ones within the area. I attributed that to our demographics because we have responsible people who live within the community. They pay their bills. This is an option that we're bringing forward and basically just saying hey we're leaving a little bit of money on the table. Does the Board have interest in this? Do they not have interest in this? It is not my intent. I don't believe it is the Town Administrator's intent to have a hard collection way attributed to the town. I don't think that's what we're looking for. I think that this was good and makes sense.

Chairman Luszey asked do we charge for fire services if a call comes in - I have a garage fire. Do I get a bill? Selectman Morin said no. I totally understand. I think people told me the same thing. Chairman Luszey asked why ambulance. Steve Malizia said why building permits that we charge for those. We've got a whole staff of inspectors. We charge for them. Selectman Routsis thought the why we charge people in town is a conversation separate from do we collect or not.

On that point, Selectman Morin said there are some fire departments that do charge absolutely.

Another question for you. Selectman McGrath asked on the elderly clients that have to use the service, when billing them do we take a look to see if they've already been exempted for their property taxes. Chief Buxton indicated that's not part of our review process. Basically what happens is the incident gets filed. It gets reviewed by the EMS Coordinator. She marks it ready for billing. Comstar, the contractor, comes in and takes that file and sends out the bills. What does happen is that if they only contribute the Medicare payment so that would be the base fee that we collect if there's a remainder on there currently we have the ability to write some of those fees off if its \$100, or less than \$100, or those types of things. We already do those things and we review those in the following months. So that does take place. Those aren't the folks that we're talking about but that review does take place.

Selectman McGrath said I've heard one complaint over the last year from someone that I would classify as not necessarily elderly but in that category. I wouldn't classify that person that way but that's the facts. He was surprised that he received a bill at all. Is there a way for the elderly that would be more in a hardship situation because they may only be relying on social security and have Medicare is that something that we could reduce the rate for those individuals as opposed to someone else that might have really good insurance and things like that? Steve Malizia indicated that's where the hardship policy would do if they fall under that blanket, we would write it off totally.

Selectman Coutu thought Chief that for those people who are receiving social security if social security paid the bill that's what we accepted? Chief Buxton said that is what we accept. We finally have the ability to write off the remainder of that. We didn't previously. Selectman Coutu noted we take just what social security gives us. Chief Buxton said that's the current Medicare. Chairman Luszey stated it's called Medicare and that's all changing as we sit here. There's a ton of things that are changing. To wrap this conversation up, I don't think we're going to make any changes tonight other than...Selectman Coutu noted I'll make a motion. Chairman Luszey thought that this Board now and even in the future start looking at the changes of insurance companies, Medicare, and Medicaid policies on how those are handled because more and more of our population are becoming dependent on a fixed income, pensions, and social security, and stuff like that. We're becoming a gray community whether we like it or not. Just look at the over 55 communities being built here. Some of these policies, again, were put in place in 1965 when things were just happening. I believe

it's time to look at the policies and the articles and see if they need changing to keep up with today's environment. That would be my closing statement.

*Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Morin, to adopt the Ambulance Billing Disposition Policy as provided in a Memo dated May 16, 2017, by Fire Chief Robert Buxton and proposed by the Town Administrator, Finance Director, and Fire Chief as amended, carried 5-0.*

D. Benson Park Restroom Project

Chairman Luszey to recognize Benson Park Chairman Jim Barnes.

Good evening. Jim Barnes explained last year Benson Park Committee did a little planning exercise and came up with a list of possible projects to do in the park to include facilities and services in the park. The number two item on the list was permanent restroom facility. Over the past winter, several members of the committee started working on this to try to put together a plan to go forward with building a facility in the park to replace the portable toilets that we have that at times in the past prove to be a source of complaints. So we started out by contacting DHR and DOT to see if that was even going to be feasible. Would we be able to a) either build a new structure or renovate part of an existing structure in the park. That started down the path of getting to taking the rear part of the gorilla house and renovating that into a permanent restroom facility. We looked at other locations up at the top of the hill. There's one specific location that's in the historic district so if we start doing any kind of new structure there that will have a lot of other concerns from DHR especially but also DOT. If we tried to put it into one of the existing historic buildings, then we've got some other issues. The train station would be difficult to make it ADA compatible. So there's where eliminated fairly quickly. That left us with the rear of the gorilla house or the level area across the road from the gorilla house for a standalone structure.

Mr. Barnes indicated we invited in a couple of contractors local to the town to have them take a look at this and give us some kind of an estimate. It's not a quote or anything like that but just an estimate so we have something to deal with. Something that we can work with. They provided an estimate for both the renovation or a new structure. Because the new structure tended to either be smaller than what we could fit into the gorilla house and a number of stations or if it was the same size, then it would be much more expensive than doing a renovation. We've decided to focus specifically on the renovation at the rear of the gorilla house. We had a conceptual diagram. I gave that to you for the facilities that could fit in there. Through various reiterations, we've come up with an estimate and that's about it as far as this. We'd have to do a lot more work to get more details of costs and things like that and more details about the exact facilities before we'd be able to move forward. The whole idea here was to get prepared to put this project onto the warrant next spring. We would need to have a fairly complete plan put together. We don't have any costs for the actual connection of the utilities for sewer, water, and also electricity. So that would all have to be put together. That's kind of where we are. We're at a point now where we say okay if we want to do more work on this and start fine tuning it and getting it into a concrete proposal that would be ready for a warrant article, there's something else that we need to do.

With the portable toilets, Mr. Barnes indicated we have a service that contract for that comes in a couple times a week or can come in on call if there was an issue there. With a permanent facility, we would need to have some kind of maintenance of the other facility, security, cleaning, all of that and the Benson Park Committee doesn't have any control over that. That would really have to come from the town. That's what we're trying to ask for. Chairman Luszey understood it would have to come from the town just like it would have to come from the town approving a warrant article to do the renovations. This proposal isn't even ready to be discussed yet because you only talk about the renovation of the little thing called the gorilla cage. What is the cost of bringing the utilities down? What is your projected costs and needs for maintenance, security, and all that. I'm sure if you talked to the Police and the Highway Department, they'll give you a rough estimate of what that might cost. That needs to be in this proposal because that's what would be going on the warrant article.

Jim Barnes responded we can start taking a look at some of these things. The warrant article would not have maintenance costs on it. Chairman Luszey said sure it would. It would have the first year of startup costs - everything. The first year warrant covers the full gamut of operations - renovating it and bringing on extra people, electricity, sewer costs, and all that. That's in the first year warrant just like the senior center was. No different.

Selectman Morin stated when I saw the amount for the project itself and then Mr. Burns' e-mail, I took it upon myself to get a hold of Nashua. I talked to the Park Rec. Director. I can tell you what he told me versus what I'm seeing in both of these documents, there's a long way to go. Nashua has been doing this a long time so they've got a pretty good plan how to work it. Their costs are pretty much documented through the years and it's a lot different. There needs to be a lot of work and I told this to the committee the other night that I wouldn't support it at this time due to the costs and what it's going to take. There was a lot of things that need to be looked into. Just for security alone, Mr. Burns talks about he has to hire two people. He's got to lock it up and things to that nature. Nashua has 9 volt battery locks on the doors that automatically lock it and unlock it so there is no need for somebody to do it. Granted at Greeley Park because their main office is there, they have a person that's there that takes care of that. Mines Fall Park which is a secluded area that's no one there, that's how they handle that and they have one person go in every other day to do the cleaning. All of this I think needs to be looked at before we go any further because again what I got from Nashua versus what I'm seeing between the documents is vastly different. There was a suggestion to bringing the maintenance person down

from the senior center but I talked to Lori Bowen today and that's not going to work out either because of the way the schedule works there. There's a lot. Personally looking at Mr. Burns' e-mail and the proposal from the Benson's Committee, I would like to see the two of them get together and talk about this because looking at this, they're both on different pages. We're not going to get anywhere unless they're together and they come in with a proposal.

Selectman McGrath thanked Selectman Morin for getting the information from the City of Nashua. I've got to say when I saw this, I was thinking here we go. The numbers that have been provided aren't complete in any way, shape or form and how can we possibly go before the voters with what's been presented? I couldn't support it at this time.

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Barnes had you had any conversation with Mr. Burns relative to the memo he provided this board about his overview of the addition of this facility at Benson Park would mean to him and his staff. Have you had any conversation with him relative to this? Mr. Barnes said I had a brief conversation I think it was last week with Mr. Burns. He mentioned in the memo that he provided to you and a couple of the high level bits of information in there. I have not seen the memo.

With regard to the proposal as you presented it, Selectman Coutu asked did you or any member of the board consider that perhaps the total cost of the project might have been a better way to present this so that we could look at what the total cost would be - the plumbing, electrical and all of that which is not included at this time. Jim Barnes said the cost of connecting the utilities to that is not included there but the cost for the plumbing within the building is there. Selectman Coutu said still the connection costs has an impact on the total cost of the project. This is just to construct the facility. It would usable except that nothing is connected. Mr. Barnes indicated I'm not saying it is usable. It does need the connections and also needs to be staffed or maintained. Keeping the staff out of it for now, Selectman Coutu said I know we're going to need staff. Have you had any kind of estimate on what connection costs would be? Mr. Barnes said I don't have anything no.

Number two, Selectman Coutu asked is it possible to have Mr. Burns come up. He's here. Thank you Mr. Burns for agreeing to come up. I'm sure we all read your memo that you e-mailed us. You and I have had discussion about things that are ongoing in the park. You had said, and please correct me if I'm wrong, that at some point this board should consider creating a parks division so that we can commit to all of our parks and then fold Benson into that fold. I never disagreed with you. I just waited for you to come in and say that's what I want. You hesitated. You didn't want to do it in this last budget cycle. In light of some of the comments that you make in your memo, let me ask you first. Are you still in favor of creating a recreation unit within your division? Mr. Burns said yes. Selectman Coutu asked are you agreeing that Benson Park should be also included as one of the parks that we would maintain under that division. Kevin Burns indicated that's where I would start the division at. I agree with Selectman Morin. My numbers are high for maintenance of bathroom. This is the beginning of a division to start maintaining the parks. I said they're going to need a vehicle. They're going to need a trailer. They're going to need lawn equipment. If you recall during the budget last year, I said I can maintain if we stay status quo. Benson's has been a huge burden to me and it's getting worse every single year. A prime example you may think it sounds silly - we had to put more trash receptacles in the park this year than we had last year or than we've ever had. It's not a huge deal the trash receptacles except that's the indicator of the usage of the park.

The park is extremely popular. Kevin Burns said I have 53 groups scheduled for events in the park this summer. People aren't staying away because of the port-o-potties. Trust me. Another argument for maybe another day - of the 53 groups that I've scheduled, 36 of them are from out of town and from out of State. That's probably a horse like I said to beat another day. I'm maxed out now and Benson's is taking up so much of my time. My work schedule this summer has been altered because of Benson's. All the reclaiming work I'm doing in town this year, I'm doing on the outskirts of town where there's no utilities because when I reclaim like for example Webster Street, I have to adjust all the water shutoffs, sewer manholes, drainage. I don't have the labor this year to do it all. I'm working out off of Gowing Road and neighborhoods like that. The roads need it but I'm planning my schedule around Benson's now. Benson's has become it seems like 25 percent of my job. The park is 166 acres. The town is 25 square miles. I'm having a hard time getting out of Benson's. I feel like I should take the town seals off some of my trucks and put zebras on the side or something.

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Burns to clarify that. I was unaware of this. What is it that's occupying 25 - I'm not taking the fact that you had to use that venue for 56 groups or whatever the number was in the 50s. That takes time. People call, they're tying up the phone. What is it that occupies 25 percent of your time at Benson Park that didn't before? Kevin Burns said this year we're doing the utility construction which my pipe crew has been in there now for 5 - 6 weeks. They're not able to be out on these other roads where they should be. I have 400 land miles of road. My pipe crew is in Benson's. Our season in New England construction is only so long. I guess the reason I wanted to get into this conversation is I'm back to the breaking point. Dave Yates had a conversation with me a little while ago about boy we're getting close to building another soccer field up on Freedom Field. My first comment to him was well are your plans to maintain it? His answer was simple - you. I'm full. We either need to stop growth or increase my staff. Benson's was my first thought. I said okay if we get two guys in Benson's, they can take care of Benson's. They'll be the start of my Park Division and that relieves my guys to get back out in the town. At that point, we could absorb maintaining another sports facility. There's 24 of us at the Highway Department and that's counting me. I have two mechanics that don't go out in the street. Now we're down to 21. Two guys that work full time in the sewer pump

stations, that gets me down to 19. The City of Nashua has an ad out now for 19 full time summer laborers just for their Parks Department. Their Parks Department is probably twice the size of my entire department.

Kevin Burns stated I used to have 32 full time people. Now I have 24. As the town has grown, my department has shrunk and it's at the breakpoint now. Also on this subject and I know I said it in my memo, port-o-potties are under control now that I've been given control. I fired the previous job that was doing a lousy job. Full time bathrooms would be nice. Are they needed for a park in New Hampshire that's not used four months a year, that's the decision that you people have to make. I don't know if the expense justifies the need. Selectman Coutu asked doesn't the City of Nashua also have the same problem? Greeley Park and what not, they're all open pretty much as much as Benson's is. We're still open 12 months a year. People have access to that park 12 months a year. They snowshoe. We have a cardboard race. We have other events that are held there. There's not always snow on the ground but I would think that Greeley Park and other parks in Nashua are open consistently the same amount of time that we are. Mr. Burns said I was under the impression they planned on closing these facilities in the winter. That was what I was lead to believe that these bathrooms would be closed in the winter time. IF they're going to be open, then they need to be maintained in the winter.

Selectman Morin said on the bathrooms, Nashua does close their bathrooms in the winter time. I have a couple of questions. How did you go from 32 people to 24? Selectman Coutu noted he's a penny pincher. Kevin Burns explained I think I've had a reputation as being fiscally conservative. I eliminated two foreman positions when I took over. We each had assistant foremen. I got rid of those. We had a third mechanic that was eliminated. I've reduced office staff. The landfill closed which was positions but I try to absorb those positions into something else. We let them go. That's basically it in a nutshell.

Other than the pipe work that's going on, Selectman Morin asked what else are your guys doing at Benson's. I know they do all the landscaping. What else goes on in there? Mr. Burns indicated the landscaping, maintenance, we're the catchalls. Selectman Coutu noted road repair, tree damage...Mr. Burns said people call us about bee's nests in trees, dangerous limbs. Selectman Coutu can back me on this one. We had one woman send him a letter last summer that I was totally incompetent because I didn't know the species of fish living in the pond. People see something and they call us. In their world, that's their biggest problem and you try to accommodate. Mowing - we're probably four guys 12 hours a week just mowing.

Chairman Luszey asked are we adding more green space down there. Selectman Coutu noted yes we are. Kevin Burns said it slowly continues to grow. Your next obstacle you're going to come is someone is going to say we need to expand the parking lot for the third time. Not a great day today, the parking lot was half full when I came down here tonight. There's a lot of events. They're out on Kimball Hill Road. If you build it, they will come. The more you increase the amenities in the park, the more people that will come and then you have these other expenses besides people.

Selectman McGrath asked are you segregating the hours that you spend at Benson's Park so that we can capture that and KC can add it to her spreadsheet so we'll know conception to date costs. Kevin Burns said we track our labor. The construction costs I can tell you right now for the utilities so far as of up to Friday, we spent \$54,388.86.

On that point, Selectman Coutu asked doesn't he get reimbursed from the money the voters approved for that. Steve Malizia said that material cost is part of the warrant. Chairman Luszey indicated the labor is not. Selectman McGrath said what I'm getting at Selectman Coutu is that KC created a spreadsheet which shows from the very beginning going current what our costs are. What we weren't capturing was Kevin's costs for any labor that was performed in the park, whatever it was whether it was materials that you were bringing in. That spreadsheet is to capture that so at least we have an idea of what we're spending on the park. At some point, the voters are going to reach their limit. They didn't reach it this time but if we keep adding things and wanting to create more things that are in the park whether its bathrooms or other recreational type things, the voters are going to reach their limit. We need to be able to tell them if we're asked what we've spent to date and what those costs are and what they represent. Thank you for doing that.

Kevin Burns indicated one thing I've always been kind of apprehensive about is I'm not overly confident I'd be successful of getting new people on a warrant article. People will support firefighters. People will support police officers. People support schools. I don't think I would be successful saying I need people to mow lawns. Chairman Luszey said if they're dedicated to Benson's, you probably would.

Selectman Morin said that was part of my question. Is two people going to be enough? You're dealing with Benson's and if you're spending this much time in the park with that many people and you still have all the other parks and all the other work you got to do is two people going to be enough? Kevin Burns indicated I was actually thinking of this on my way down here today. I've been physically conservative my entire career and I think that served me well in the Highway Department. I don't think it's serving me well in the Benson's department. Two people I looked at as a start, I would hate to ask for more than I need. I'm not really sure.

Selectman Coutu thought we have to consider that right now what you're involved in is a one-time thing. We're not going to be installing pipes every year and tying up all of your staff or a large portion of your staff on a project at Benson's of this magnitude. This will probably be one of the single largest projects you'll have undertaken. If this Board agreed

to have this restroom facility studied further and come back with an adjusted cost of the entire project, that wouldn't be a project you'd undertake. You wouldn't do the connections would you? Mr. Burns said we would run the services yes. Selectman Coutu said but it wouldn't be in the magnitude that it is right now. This year you made a commitment to do this. I think you took on more than we thought it was going to be. You made a commitment to do it. Next year you won't have this project so you'll have them in out doing paving because typically that's your big summer project the paving. Chairman Luszey indicated he'll be doing Freedom Field II next year. Mr. Malizia said not installing it. We can contract that out. Chairman Luszey noted but we still have to maintain it once it's done. I believe that's what you're really talking about.

Selectman Coutu stated that all works into deciding whether or not we want to have a parks division and if we do, what are the needs to staff it properly. It's not just Freedom Field. We have a lot of parks. We have baseball parks. Chairman Luszey said you've got Jette Field, and the rest of the fields, Merrill Field. Selectman Coutu said we're maintaining them as best we can and they're doing an outstanding job the few people that are out there doing it. I go by Jette Field. I got out of my car. I walked around. I'm proud of that field as I am of Benson Park and the other fields that we have for baseball in the Town of Hudson. You've undertaken the maintenance of a decrepit basketball court. That has seen new life now and it's used, it's beautiful. Then you'll have the pickleball court. There are a lot of things that we've added and I understand that. I think that last year you were reluctant to add it to the budget even though I suggested maybe we ought to come in with a plan and you said no let's hold off. I think you wanted to see the scope or nature where Benson's was going to go. We just see it growing, and growing and growing. Again I'm going to reiterate what I said in the past. Either we're going to commit to maintaining Benson Park or we should shudder it.

Chairman Luszey thought the voters have answered that question with the last warrant article. They said commit to it and they're not charged for it. My position at this point would be is for Kevin to put together a plan of what he needs in terms of resources to maintain not only Benson but all the parks to allow his road division to go back doing road work which is greatly needed in the town and for Mr. Barnes to go off and put a fully baked plan together as to what it would take to do this proposal including input from not only Kevin but the Chief of Police in terms of what it's going to cost in terms of security.

Selectman Coutu thought too Mr. Chairman Mr. Barnes and the committee have to realize that the feasibility of this plan will be predicated on whether or not Kevin is successful in building a recreation department within his division. Without any help, there's no sense building a building that we're not going to be able to maintain. If the voters say no to hiring people, let's not throw good money after bad.

In reference to the security, Selectman Morin said talking to Nashua and then receiving the Police Chief's e-mail. Nashua has very few problems with those bathrooms. Even Mine Falls they reported that the usual kid stuff - stuffing the toilets and things of that nature. Other than that, the Chief followed up with the police Nashua and Merrimack and found that they had no reports, no issues and Nashua put security cameras on their facility. The security part of it at this point is not as big an issue as it may be at a cost. Chairman Luszey said it needs to be addressed in terms of the total picture. Selectman Morin said the cameras and the automatic locks, that's going to take care of overtime. People unlock it and lock it. I'll tell you a police officer locking the park and firefighters checking the port-o-potties, I don't agree with that at all. It's not their job.

Chairman Luszey didn't think you got a yes. I don't think you have a no. You are being asked to go off and put a fully baked plan together if we're going to be serious about presenting it to the voters this fall. I think Mr. Burns needs to put together a plan on what it's going to take to support something of this magnitude along with the rest of the parks and the future fields that we know are coming at them.

Selectman McGrath suggested if the Benson's Committee plans further development you might as well tell us now and tell Mr. Burns now so that he can include that in his presentation of what he's going to need in order to take care of Benson's so that the voters have a clear understanding that this isn't going to be it. You're going to be coming back again wanting to do something else. You might as well come back with everything that you're anticipating doing, what your heart's desires are so that the voters can get a clear picture of what they're being asked to do.

Jim Barnes said certainly we have at least two buildings that are essentially empty right now - the office building and the train station that could be restored and used for something. There is a conceptual proposal discussion that's going on for the interior of the train station. We're not anywhere near being able to say what the details of any of that is.

Selectman McGrath indicated if those projects aren't going to include Kevin Burns and his staff that he's going to need to attend to Benson's, then that's something else. Kevin is going to be coming in with a presentation or a plan saying that I need X number of people and that's based on what you're telling him what your committee is planning to do. If you're planning to expand that would include additional services from Mr. Burns' staff, then you should include that now.

Mr. Barnes said certainly those buildings once they're restored and repaired can be used for something. That's what we need to have some discussions about. Selectman McGrath stated it would be kind of nice to know that if you're planning to restore buildings, there's going to be a need for it that you're going to clearly identify.

Chairman Luszey thought the plan has always been to restore those main buildings. Jim Barnes indicated those are on the State Historic Register and I believe the town has a responsibility to maintain those. Chairman Luszey thought what you're alluding to and it actually gets much bigger than that and it gets to what the parks and recreation division would be responsible for is what would your expectations be for that proposed division be responsible for the building maintenance. What is our expectation that new division turn to the Community Center which is a rec. building? The rec. building itself. I don't know. I don't think we've given all that much thought about all that.

Again Selectman Morin said you have next door. They're a good source of information and how to go about it and at least get an idea of what the plan needs to be.

Chairman Luszey said I'll tell you what I'm asking is what's our expectation for Mr. Burns in terms of developing the scope of what the responsibilities are of this thing called the parks and recreation division. Is he going to be truly responsible for the recreational elements within this entity called "the Town of Hudson" which there's buildings and infrastructure that go along with that?

Selectman Morin indicated per say he's the expert. I would like to see him come in with what he feels that department should do and then we can take it from there. He's the one that's going to be able to give us the best information.

Selectman Coutu commented if he's going to do it and we're going to do it right, obviously he's going to look for somebody he can trust to be the foreman so he's not out there doing it all himself. Somebody that's going to maintain that crew, and make sure the equipment is maintained, and make sure that people are sent out to do whatever park needs mowing or whatever on a regular basis.

Chairman Luszey asked are we asking them to take ownership of the maintenance of the buildings also that are defined as recreational buildings. Selectman Coutu said some municipalities have parks and buildings, divisions. I think that's a conversation that - from my perspective anyways - should be an in-house conversation. Maybe we should charge the Town Administrator and Kevin to sit down and see what's feasible and what's the best approach. Right now the community center is helter skelter. We send Wayne over there whenever he's needed and we try to keep it as best we can. There's no funds really dedicated to that building other than we have a general maintenance account. Steve Malizia noted we budget for that building but then we've used the major capital reserve fund for the roof. We're doing painting right now so that's coming out of that fund. Selectman Coutu said the floor is coming apart and no one is looking at it. That really needs to be addressed at some point. Selectman Routsis said the whole interior needs to be addressed. Selectman Coutu indicated comedians come in and they look around and they're inside and they say "so this is Hudson, NH? This is the best you've got?" I sit there and I'm a little embarrassed.

Chairman Luszey said you've got the rec. center and then you've got the buildings within Benson's that I know Kevin has done some work on. From my point of view if we're going to do this, it should be all encompassing.

Selectman Routsis agreed with Selectman Coutu where I think the timing of this and Mr. Burns and it's that Mr. Burns wants it or wants to expand that way. We don't want to put something on him that..Chairman Luszey said that was a different discussion. Whether he wants it or not, are we charging him with this task or not? I didn't want to do a lot of things when I was asked to. If that was my directives and I went off and did it to the best of my abilities, then I think we're asking Mr. Burns to go and put this organization together that will address the needs of the recreational infrastructure component of Hudson.

Selectman Morin said you've been thinking about this. What was your vision? Kevin Burns said right now I am responsible for the exterior of every town building meaning from the foundation out. I think it's an awful lot to ask me to take on the inside of the buildings too when there are department heads assigned to those buildings. They should know what they need in their building more than I do. I have a lot of hats on now being the head janitor.

Chairman Luszey stated it's not a head janitor. That's not what at least my envision. It's a facilities manager. Very different. Janitorial services is one component of that. A tenant like the Recreation Department being in there, yes they know what they need to ask a facilities person to provide. That doesn't necessarily mean they have all of the knowledge and tools necessary to fully maintain a facility because you have mechanical systems and everything that need to be maintained. I don't think we as a town can afford putting duplicate services in all of these different buildings to do that. I'm a true believer that that should be a consolidated function.

Kevin Burns said my question would be who? I have a 400 miles of road, sewer, drainage. There's only so many hours in a day. Chairman Luszey indicated when I say you, I'm looking to you as a holding pot for a set of skill sets to do that you manage. Just like you have a supervisor that helps you manage your road stuff. You have a supervisor that helps you manage your water and sewer stuff. I don't expect you Kevin to physically manage that stuff. That's where this organization comes into play. I'm looking for you to be the director of another element.

Selectman Coutu indicted that was my vision as well.

Selectman Routsis asked is it fair to say that maybe the Town Administrator looks into potentially how other towns or areas do it. Steve Malizia noted everybody does everything different. Selectman Routsis asked can put a plan together of what it would look like - highway, park, rec. under one. Selectman Morin said you can take the good and the bad from all the communities and it's going to give you somewhere to go. Like I said what I learned from Nashua, there's a wealth of information out there that we should take advantage of.

Selectman Coutu said even who we hire for a Recreation Director after what happened there in Nashua and not here.

Selectman Routsis asked right now do we table the bathrooms until we get a full plan that includes labor costs - what it actually costs the services to it, what it costs to maintain it for at least year one, and obviously something projected out 3 years, 5 years, some type of scope and then the other conversation. Selectman Coutu said we would definitely need year one for the warrant article.

Chairman Luszey also thought that - and it's not so much tabling. We're going to ask Mr. Burns to go back and fully develop this. At the same time, we need to have the infrastructure support piece developed at the same time. It's not going to do us a whole lot of good to have that one piece come back without being able to support it. Selectman Routsis said that can be a stepping stone to what the future is. Chairman Luszey said it could be but it sounds like we're already at the breaking point and we need to address the resources that Mr. Burns has available to him today.

Mr. Chairman as Mr. Burns' liaison, Selectman Coutu said I would be willing to sit down with Mr. Burns and the Town Administrator and I would think that because Benson's is going to be an intricate part of this whole processes because that's what's really generating this conversation is that I believe Selectman Morin you're the Benson Park representative. Maybe we could bounce a few ideas off. We meet four of us. I would only ask that it would be like on a Monday. I know Mondays are probably a bad day for you because they're a prep day. I'm available any time during the day on Monday. If you want to make it afternoon after lunch or first thing in the morning, I'm more than willing to sit down. I know Selectman Morin is a hop, skip and a jump away from here and he's readily available now that he's happily retired or not so happily retired whatever the case may be. If that would be a benefit to you. I think it is too monumental for you to try to hash this all out by yourself. I just want to hear your ideas and try to get this going in the right direction or if you're against it, let's not waste a lot of people's time. Let's see if there are other avenues for us to explore. Do we create a division unto itself or is this something that you should put under your umbrella?

Chairman Luszey asked Kevin Burns and Selectman Morin if they were in agreement. Both said yes. Would the first meeting in July be far enough out to have a preliminary finding of what you're thinking? We will be going right into budget cycle shortly thereafter. Mr. Malizia indicated more like September/October. Chairman Luszey said well think about how often we meet. That's like four meetings.

Selectman Coutu said if this is going to be cumbersome - we can have a workshop just on this subject and bring in a couple of department heads. We're going to do department reviews anyway. Don't we typically do that as well or do we do it all in the budget cycle now? Mr. Malizia said we've been doing it in the budget cycles unless there's something extraordinary that somebody needs to do on a regular...Selectman Coutu there is a couple of things extraordinary I'd like to bring one department head in on it. That's getting this traffic flow going right over here. It still hasn't been corrected. Mr. Malizia explained you're trying to put a lot of stuff through a small bag. Selectman Coutu said we can tentatively - we would meet the second Monday in July - tentatively set that as a date. We will progress. We'll meet 1, or 2, or 3 times and the Town Administrator will let you know whether it's ready for that agenda or the following one. Chairman Luszey said if we need a workshop, we'd plan it for August. Selectman Coutu said we can do a workshop. We can do the first Tuesday in August. That still gives us plenty of time because by then we'll probably have worked out some of the numbers as well if that's okay with the other three. Chairman Luszey said it sounded like a plan.

Selectman McGrath added one comment for Mr. Burns. I think that you underestimate the support that you get from the town. I think for the most part, you can't speak for everyone but I think that you get a lot of support and appreciation for the work that your people do whether it's plowing the roads, paving the roads, taking care of the sewer and water issues. I think that you're well appreciated and you may not realize that but I think that that's the truth.

Selectman Coutu said the general voter knows that you have a well-oiled machine out there and they're very appreciative. I concur with Selectman McGrath. I'm in the public eye so I hear it all the time - even the mailboxes.

Chairman Luszey told Mr. Barnes - I think about the same timetable for you to get a little more detail because if we can get something probably the fourth Tuesday of July for you to come back and then we could go through that and if we need more or less to begin the budget process which kicks off in Septemberish if we're serious about this. Thank you.

#### E. Town Hall Doors Replacement

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said if you're familiar - obviously there's a side door over here and there's a door up at the top of the handicapped ramp. For those of you who've been around, we replaced the two front doors last year or the year before

last with much more accessible doors. This door over here when the sun beats on it, we can't move the latch. It's difficult for people with mobility issues to get in and out of here. I believe that door has also outlived its useful life. What I'm looking to do is get your permission to replace the doors and take the money from the major building capital repair fund which is what we did for the front doors. We did it for the rubber roof. We did it for painting Lions Hall. Again I think it's just a prudent expenditure. Again we have some real issues getting in and out of this door. The benefit is the doors will all be accessible by folks with mobility issues and maybe other handicaps, and they'll all be similar, and they'll all be more energy efficient. I'm looking to get the money from the major buildings capital reserve fund.

Selectman Coutu asked are they going to be rekeyed. Mr. Malizia said no I believe we try to use the same keys. It's a lot easier to use the same key. I anticipate a locksmith will be able to do that.

Selectman McGrath fully supported this. As one who has on a number of occasions not been able to open the door because it's been so darn hot. I was showing Donna last week I burnt my finger and I couldn't get into the door. I had to walk around to the front. Mr. Malizia noted you have to depress a latch which in today's door world for a municipal building, you really shouldn't have to do that. The problem is when it gets hot, it contracts or expands whichever one it does, you cannot move that latch. Even abled folks have difficulty. Selectman Coutu indicated I have a hard time. I thought it was just me that's why I never brought it up. Mr. Malizia said we certainly have enough funding. We have \$200,000 in that reserve fund so I'd like to be able to just get your permission to use that reserve fund for that purpose. Selectman McGrath said I'm all for this because I have difficult with my hands first of all. I have no strength in my hands but I also can't bend my wrists. To try and open the latch and the other door - I didn't think about the other door at the top of the ramp but I have a devil of a time opening that door as well. Steve Malizia said we'll also still have the handicapped button and the mechanism up there. That we'll be able to use but we'll replace those. Again aesthetically, energy wise, and for the general public, and for the employees it will be a better situation.

Chairman Luszey asked about the chairlift and the elevator. Have we done any serious maintenance with those? Steve Malizia said we have those inspected every year by the State. Chairman Luszey said that's not what I asked because there's been a number of occasions where we couldn't get them to work. Mr. Malizia said sometimes folks get impatient. You have to realize when that was installed - before my time and I'm not making excuses - that is not a commercial lift. Chairman Luszey said if a handicapped person or a person on crutches is trying to get downstairs and even the Town Engineer can't get the chairlifts to work or this lift to work, there's something wrong. Mr. Malizia repeated its called patience. Sometimes you have to be patient and let the machine operate as if you were a handicapped person instead of grabbing and twisting every dial. Chairman Luszey said the handicapped person was there. Mr. Malizia said the handicapped person wasn't the one working the controls.

Selectman Routsis stated at one point the handicapped person was the person working the controls and still unable to do it.

For me to say you need patients, Chairman Luszey said is an improper answer. Those things when it says push this button and then push that button and when you do that it doesn't work, there's something wrong with the control system and it should be addressed. That could be a safety hazard. If something happened God forbid downstairs here and they needed to get up, patience is not the right answer. Mr. Malizia said when you push the button it takes a little bit of time for the door to open. People don't wait that little bit of time for the door to open to start pushing things. I realize it's not a perfect system but unless we want to replace it which is probably \$100,000 and I'm not sure how you replace it quite honestly.

Selectman Routsis said for the amount of time that I had to use it honestly and the amount of time that it didn't work, it was far less. It was honestly maybe once on the opposite side and twice over here. It could have been something as simple as...Chairman Luszey said you're not the only one that's had problems with it. Selectman Routsis said because of how infrequently it's used though...Chairman Luszey said there is something systemically wrong with it. Inspecting it and having it functional when it needs to be are two very distinct events. Inspecting it they go through it and say yes it meets all the criteria. It should be functional 100 percent of the time or 99.9 percent and that it's not. We need to address that. I've asked about this when you were having problems with it. I personally had problems with it because I came in about 4 or 5 weeks on a Saturday and I still couldn't get it to work. There is something or either that I just don't know how to use it. Selectman Routsis thought we do need to have someone more than one person that knows how to use it. I think that's the thing.

Steve Malizia said Donna knows how to use it. Wayne knows how to use it. Chairman Luszey stated but they're not here at night when people are having the meetings here. We should have people trained to use it. It's an ADA compliance issue.

Donna Graham indicated I did train the staff over at Community Development. I had them all come out and had them all do it themselves. The one on the other side if the tray and the lip doesn't come up fully then it's not going to engage and it's not going to work. Selectman Routsis said it was a safety thing. Ms. Graham further explained on the elevator you have to make sure that you have to push the button to make sure it goes level with the floor because if it's an inch or below, then the door is not going to open. Chairman Luszey said that is improper operation of that. That equipment should self-level itself so that the doors open, the person gets in, and presses a button. They shouldn't have to know

that well it's not down to the level yet and I need to punch a button again. Ms. Graham indicated that have to hold down the button. Chairman Luszey said if a person is coming to a meeting is that absolutely clear. No. Mr. Smith coming in on crutches going to a ZBA meeting...Ms. Graham indicated there's instructions on the top and the bottom and both here too. Chairman Luszey said an untrained person just like is not going to do that. I'm not sure how we fix that but we do need to address that somehow. We'll bring that up at a different day.

Selectman Morin said you just hit it on the head. The untrained person. That's why you need a trained person. I can tell you through experience using that and coming over, it's operator failure 99.9 percent of the time. I think people trained will cover the town in the long run if something happens versus the guy that broke his leg, is only on crutches for a couple of weeks. We don't expect them to know how to use it. This is a thing that they had to use. We should have somebody there to - if it's one of us on the Board with Donna and learn how to do it and every board had one person. I don't expect the person off the street to know how to run that.

To that point, Chairman Luszey said maybe the solution is to get the Chairmen of the boards that meet here trained in how to do that.

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to approve the replacement of the side entrance door and the door at the top of the handicap ramp at Town Hall with the funding to come from the Town Buildings Major Repairs Capital Reserve Fund, carried 5-0.*

#### F. Impact Fee Accounts

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia stated every May we take a look at the impact fees. I give you a report. You can see it on the flip side of your memo. They're basically funds collected by developers for various projects. As you can see, the majority have some sort of commitment. There are a couple for example Elm Ave. and Webster Street improvements as well as Oakridge and Robinson Road which is a new one. Elm Ave. - that's for improvements where the True Value intersection is. A few years ago we shortened the island. I think the possibility really the only thing we can do right now is maybe look at the cameras to see if we can improve that intersection. In the morning it does get pretty busy. Kevin and Elvis are going to look at that. Other than that, I'm not aware of any other improvement we're going to make there. We already made the major one with the island.

Oakridge - that's the project over there on Belknap. When that project is basically job and Kevin is ready to pave, that money will be for repaving that stretch of road. That was what that was intended for.

Apparently a new one showed up for Robinson Road/Derry Road improvements. It has to be spent by 2022. Quite frankly I don't know what we're going to do for \$2,500. I didn't collect it. I just report on it. You're not going to get much of anything done over there for \$2,500. A few years back we had \$5,000. We added a turning lane to assist motorists getting off of Robinson up 102. I'm not aware and I don't think Mr. Burns is aware of any other...Chairman Luszey said we could have the lines repainted for this. Mr. Malizia asked why is that an improvement. It has to be an improvement. Selectman Routsis indicated you could get reflective ones so you could see them. Mr. Malizia noted they are reflective. He and I have talked.

Selectman Coutu asked to look at a couple of these - Elm Ave. and Webster. Assume for a minute that Mr. Dhima and the Road Agent go out there and they find that they could use \$5,000 or no dollars. The funds have to be committed before October 2017. What happens if nothing happens to that \$18,000? Steve Malizia indicated the funds go back to the person who paid it. Selectman Coutu said there was a person. Mr. Malizia believed this was Sparkling River. Selectman Coutu asked so it would go back to them. Okay. So that should be decided this year. Mr. Malizia agreed.

Selectman Coutu asked about the Stop and Shop monies. Steve Malizia indicated we already committed it. Selectman Coutu remarked that's for that improvement. Assuming that Market Basket, Haffners all agree to it. Let me ask another question relative to that particular project. On Haffners I believe it was the original owner who agreed to it. He has since sold it to a different corporation. Are they bound by that contract did he agree to? Mr. Malizia stated I'm not a lawyer. I couldn't tell you what they're bound to. I can tell you what we've committed to. We've committed to a project. If it falls apart, I assume we'd have to give that money back to whoever paid it which I believe is Stop and Shop.

Chairman Luszey asked is this for the proposed new light. Mr. Malizia said yes it's towards that corridor with that new light. Chairman Luszey said if you committed these funds in 2014, how long do you have to basically say the project fell apart. Steve Malizia noted when the project falls apart. If somebody comes back and withdraws their plans and they don't do it that would be an indication. Chairman Luszey asked hasn't Market Basket already withdrawn the plans on that. Selectman McGrath said they haven't gone forward. My understanding is is that they are at least a few years away. That's predicated on the big lawsuit that the family members were embroiled in. So they stopped any further development. They were planning to come in with an expansion of Market Basket so that it would be a super store and much larger. They were going to realign the entrance way for Market Basket. They were going to align it with Haffners and also the nursing home was going to be involved in that. I've talked to John Cashell a number of times about that

project. Like I said, Market Basket is on hold and I think that its a few years away last I heard. Haffners was sold to a different company and they haven't bought into this realignment because it would realign their entranceway with Market Basket and the nursing home project has been put on hold. That's what I've last heard. Chairman Luszey indicated it sounds like it has fallen apart. How long is it indefinite? Selectman McGrath said not necessarily. First of all looking at the economy and the way it has been the last few years, a lot of projects that were planned especially big projects. They were put on hold because of the economy. That's starting to improve. Whether or not Market Basket is in a position to bring that forward, I don't know. The nursing home it's just that they've put on hold what they were planning to do. They haven't said we're not going to do it. We've decided against it. They need more space. They're growing and I anticipate that that will continue to be the case for them. Haffners - it's just a matter I think of negotiations. If the other two projects start to move forward and they really want to get those moving, they're going to negotiate with Haffners and it may just be money. For now, we can't expect it to happen this year. I wouldn't expect that we can expect it next year. If anything, they'd start the process next year for development. Chairman Luszey said these funds were put into this account back when Stop and Shop was built. The reason they were committed back in 2014 is we either had to commit it to something then or we had to give the money back because the time period was elapsing, correct? Selectman McGrath indicated it was based on what their businesses were going to do to the traffic in that area. Chairman Luszey said I got that but Stop and Shop was no longer there. Their projected growth went negative. The time period in which we've held up this money was running out based on those projections. Aren't we kind of obligated to say enough is enough? Selectman McGrath said not if the town is going to be...Chairman Luszey interrupted and said it's not based on Stop and Shop's impact. Selectman McGrath didn't know if it was Stop and Shop or the owner of the property and that's Mr. Sousa. He still maintains that property even though it's not Stop and Shop. He's in a lease with Good Will for a number of years. Chairman Luszey said we didn't put an impacts on Good Will. Selectman McGrath said we didn't have to because it was on the property. I believe Mr. Sousa is the one even though it says Stop and Shop, I think it was for that development but I believe that it was Mr. Sousa paid the impact fee because he was the one that was developing the project.

Steve Malizia indicated the development agreement was with K & M Developers which is the Sousas. However, Stop and Shop wrote the check and paid it. They wrote another check for a recreational fee behind the facility which we never built and we gave them the money back. On this particular one, this is for traffic. This is what their impact was. Their building is already built. It had an impact. You haven't done anything at this point in time because you were waiting for the Market Basket, Haffners, nursing home intersection to use this money. If that totally goes away which it hasn't yet...Chairman Luszey asked for the time limit. Mr. Malizia indicated there is no time limit once you commit it. Had you not committed this, it would have...Chairman Luszey said we committed it based on a set of conditions that we thought were going to occur. It never matured. The lachers was sold. Market Basket had a total reorganize put their plans on hold. The nursing home put their plans on hold. So how long do we get to play with somebody else's money before we're obligated to say enough is enough. Steve Malizia said I wouldn't use the word "play". We put it in a deposit account that it draws interest and if for some reason that project disappears, this board can vote to send the money back.

Selectman Morin asked is Fairview building a parking lot there versus what they had planned before. If I remember correctly - and this is a couple of years now since they were in before the Planning Board - Selectman McGrath indicated they were planning to build another building, and don't ask me what the use was. I don't know if it was for assisted living because we're having a number of people with Alzheimer's and they're housing those people. They may start out needing assisted living and then transition into full care. I don't know what the use of the building is going to be. I can't tell you. They were going to do that and they were going to manipulate because the traffic going into the site is problematic and always has been. For that site, it's always been a problem and they were going to do an interior road that would connect up with Haffners and then come out to the light on Lowell Road. It would be Haffners and the nursing home which would connect up with Haffners using that light as well as Market Basket. That's how it was supposed to work. Whether or not they've changed those plans - the nursing home - they may have decided that what they were proposing to do wasn't going to be adequate for their needs or maybe their needs are changing and they need more long term care versus short term. I don't know. Mr. Cashell would likely know that answer.

Selectman Coutu noted I can tell you since the reorganization of Market Basket, they have resumed construction. They've opened a couple of new stores. I know that they have talked about this particular building. It is still their objective to make that a superstore and I think you will see something formal within the next 15 to 18 months come before the town for that property. Selectman McGrath indicated it's going to take them that long to develop the plans. Selectman Coutu said they have a plan. Selectman McGrath stated they're probably going to manipulate that plan I would think. Selectman Coutu stated I know they have a plan. I've seen the plan for that building. I thought it was ready to be presented. It was put on hold because of financial reasons. Now they've resumed construction. As a matter of fact, they've opened a couple of new stores since the reorg and now this particular market - they're starting to hear the people. You don't read the Thumbs column but a lot of people are complaining about the condition of the store. You can't move in there. It's tight. Selectman McGrath indicated I could be one of them. I do not send in Thumbs Up Thumbs Down. Selectman Coutu thought they'll address that. The growth is what it is. We have more and more outsiders coming in. There's a lot of things that are going to happen in the next couple of years that are going to surprise a lot of people in this community so we'll see what happens.

Selectman Coutu asked the \$333.83 can we just give that to the senior center for...Steve Malizia stated if they have some sort of expense, yes we can pay that expense. I've alerted the Recreation Director to that amount and said just give me some sort of bill. Something you procure for the senior center. Selectman Coutu thought he could have used for that pickleball court and given it to Kevin to offset the expense of building the pickleball court. Mr. Malizia said I've alerted him that you have this money here for something for the senior center. Selectman Coutu asked how long do we have on this one? Mr. Malizia said we've committed it. We had some money I think he spent on something. This is the remainder of that. He's got to find something to buy.

Selectman Routsis asked does it have to be something to buy or can it be towards one of their trips. Steve Malizia said buy. It's not a trip. I has to be some sort of hard good. Selectman Coutu asked redoing their floor or doing something in the building. Mr. Malizia said go buy something that you need for the center. Chairman Luszey said they could do a senior computer training activity and buy a new computer or they could buy a 3D printer.

#### 9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Coutu - I'm fine. Thank you. I want to remind everybody this Monday is Memorial Day. We will be having the parade down 102 from Hannafords to the Common. There will be some speakers there. From there I believe we walk down to the Legion. The parade starts I believe at 2 p.m. We have to muster at 1 p.m. and the parade will be at 2. I don't want anybody to feel insulted if I don't walk in the parade. I will make every attempt to at least be at the Common at the appropriate time. I'll find my way over to the Legion. I can always hook a ride from there and then a ride back to get my car and head back. I cannot walk the route any more. It is physically impossible for me to walk it. I can't speak for you but I don't think you're capable of walking that distance. Marilyn I don't think you're capable of walking that distance. Dave why don't you jog four times as fast for the rest of us. That's it. I just wanted to remind everyone. I'm going to ask everyone kids are going to be out of school. There are going to be a lot of cookouts. It's supposed to be a relatively good day. Please drive carefully. Be aware of everyone around you. Please remember our Veterans on that. This is what it is all about commemorating our Veterans and remembering the lives that were lost and the reason why the lives were lost so that we can live in a free society.

Selectman McGrath - Just to echo I guess Selectman Coutu's comments. I honor the Veterans. My father served in WWII. Three of his brothers served in WWII. They were all stationed over in Europe and different parts of the military. I think it is particularly this time of year to remember them is appropriate. I remember them all the time. With what's happening over in England, I think our thoughts should be with that country and what they're going through as well. What happened yesterday was just horrible. That's all that I have. Thank you.

Selectman Morin - A little bit more on Benson's. The committee decided the other night at their meeting to try to rehab the race tracks for the remote control tracks. There was a lot of discussion. The other option was to make it a picnic grounds right across from the playground. They did vote to move forward with the track but then there was some discussion about possibly taking that piece of land and do both - a small picnic area and the track. Again that has to be worked out and they have to see what they have available for our land.

On June 18, Selectman Morin stated the Fire Department turns 125. I spoke with the Fire Chief today and Speaker Jasper. Speaker Jasper is going to work on getting proclamations from the State and from the Legislature to present and the Chief has a few ideas how he would like to move forward with some type of event for that 125 years in service. So more of that will be coming. If we can, something from this town also to make a presentation at that event when it does take place if we have anything like that.

Last but not least, Selectman Morin wished everyone a safe and happy Memorial Day.

Selectman Routsis - I just have a couple of events that are coming up. There is a motorcycle run this Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> that I help host for a young 4 year old girl who has an incurable disease. We do it to help promote some awareness of what she has which is MLD - Metachromatic Leukodystrophy. Registration starts at 9 a.m. It's an amazing ride. Last year we had a lot of people talk about it. This is our second annual ride.

The most important one is on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the VFW. We already spoke about it a little bit Selectman Coutu for Josh Keller. It's an amazing family. Amazing young man. We're having a spaghetti dinner from 5 to 9. We're going to have pasta, sauce, meatballs, bread, salad, raffles, 50/50, a DJ. It is a cash bar. I am accepting credit cards. I hope to see as many people possible there and have a great long weekend and happy Memorial Day.

Selectman Luszey - Just a couple items. I spoke with the Chief recently about where we are with the whole fire station plans. The site plan is just about done. We have about nine days left on that. They're doing the borings I think it is this week and that will finish that up and then we'll be sending that out to bid. That's actually good news. We're moving right along with that.

The Manchester, England event. Chairman Luszey said that kind of struck real close to home for me personally. My wife has a cousin that lives in Manchester. Wasn't involved in it but still her Mum is over there and it does just go to

show how small this world is. If you haven't been watching the news, England has gone to the highest level of security that they have. I know our national security is looking hard at that event and issues that are going on in this country today. With that, I ask that everybody stay alert and stay aware of their surroundings. Please do remember those that gave the ultimate sacrifice this Monday on Memorial Day for the freedoms that we so enjoy today. I guess that's all I have to say.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to enter Nonpublic Session pursuant to 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; (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee, and (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with any body or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Chairman Luszey entered Nonpublic Session at 9:18 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 is asked to leave the room.

Chairman Luszey entered open session at 9:35 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to promote Eric Dionne to the position of Chief Mechanic/Shop Foreman, pay grade XVI, Step 7, at \$31.65 per hour effective June 4, 2017, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to hire Nathan Walker as a student intern employee for the summer of 2017 in support of the Alvirne High School's Academy of Finance program at a rate of \$10.00 per hour for approximately 150 hours. This is a temporary position without benefits, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Morin, to allow the Road Agent to advertise for an Equipment Operator, carried 5-0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:36 p.m. by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Coutu, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

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Thaddeus Luszey, Chairman

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Marilyn E. McGrath, Vice-Chairman

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Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

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Angela Routsis, Selectman

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David S. Morin, Selectman