

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the June 13, 2017 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Luszey the meeting of June 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman McGrath.
3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Ted Luszey, Marilyn McGrath, Roger Coutu, Angela Routsis, David Morin

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Rob Buxton, Fire Chief; Steve Porter, Chairman of Senior Affairs Cte.; Dave Yates, Recreation Director; Lori Bowen, Senior Services Coordinator; Kevin Burns, Road Agent

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Luszey asked does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time. We have no public here.

5. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

A. Interviews

- 1) 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)

Chairman Luszey indicated I'd like to postpone this until after we have the discussion with the Chairman of the Senior's Committee if that's okay with the Board.

Selectman McGrath asked is that going to happen tonight. Chairman Luszey believed it's on tonight's agenda. I invited Mr. Porter.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Luszey asked does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration.

Selectman Routsis asked to remove C. 1. because that's from me.

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

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve Consent Item C. 1., carried 4-1-0. Selectman Routsis abstained.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) 2016 Tax Abatement - Map 109, Lot 6 - 290 Derry Road, w/recommendation to approve and sign settlement agreement
- 2) Current Use Lien Releases - Map 116, Lot 97 - 33 Senter Farm Road; Map 116, Lot 98 - 29 Senter Farm Road, w/recommendation to approve
- 3) Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed/Timber Warrant - Map 195, Lot 001 - 26 Hawkview Road; Map 194, Lot 010 - 104R Bush Hill Road; Map 186, Lot 024 - 59 Speare Road; Map 201, Lot 007 - 96 Bush Hill Road; Map 100, Lot 008 - Eversource Energy, w/recommendation to approve
- 4) Regualification of Elderly Exemptions - Map 174, Lot 128 - 4 Haywood Place; Map 178, Lot 013, Sub 002 - 14 Mobile Drive; Map 178, Lot 013, Sub 110 - 31 Mobile Drive; Map 197, Lot 041 - 59 Lowell Road, w/recommendation to requalify

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Raffle Permit - Hudson Police Employee Association
- 2) Readoption of Investment Policy
- 3) Readoption of Fund Balance Policy
- 4) Raffle Permit - Saint Kathryn Parish

D. Donations

- 1) \$500 from VFW for the Fire Explorers Donation Fund
- 2) \$100 from Betty Blume in memory of MaryAnn Knowles to be put in the Senior Center Donation Account

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the May 23, 2017 meeting

F. Calendar

- 06/14 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room4
- 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

A. Discussion relative to bathrooms at Benson Park

Chairman Luszey recognized Selectman Morin.

Selectman Morin said I asked Mr. Barnes to be here tonight for the discussion and if you would be all right to have him come up.

Jim Barnes, 3 McKinney Drive.

Selectman Morin explained there has been a lot of discussion putting in public bathrooms at Benson's. Mr. Barnes and myself visited the Nashua Park and Recreation Director on Wednesday afternoon to go over how they run the bathrooms. Basically what I would like to ask tonight, the committee is actively pursuing costs and everything for a warrant article. What I would like to ask is if we want to go for this this year if we want to put it on the warrant before they do all the work that they've got to be done because it's got to be a lot of work in a short period of time.

Chairman Luszey didn't disagree with that. If I may, you and I actually had some discussion on this. In order to get to the warrant article, we need to have a full blown plan. If you're committed to the project, then my opinion is that you'll put the time and effort into doing that including getting - and I'm not looking for architectural plans. I'm not a big believer in submitting stuff out to architects to be drawn up and designed just to have them changed by the contractor when you get them in because they're somewhat deficient in being buildable. I'm more of a design build type person. I believe that you could go out and get three competitive bids from those types of firms for that type of work to understand exactly what it would cost to put public bathrooms in there including all of the hookups. I think having conversations with the Nashuas, and the Lowells, and the beach area, you could get a real good handle on what the first year operating costs would be in terms of consumable items and also what would be needed in terms of labor to support it. Again if we want to go forward, then that is the level of plan I think we would need for the budget pass.

To answer some of those questions, Selectman Morin indicated we did get a first year amount of money but it would basically cost. We talked about the construction and what we're going to need for the construction to handle the vandalism and things to that nature and we are going to have a discussion later on in reference to the manpower that would take care of it. At that point, I could talk about that part of it. We're looking around \$2,000 for the costs to start. Basically all they have is toilet tissue. Everything else is a blower for your hands. There's not really a big cost for the

year for supplies. The biggest problem we're going to have is the electricity and getting the water to the building I think is going to be the biggest issue that the committee is going to face.

Selectman McGrath asked have you taken into consideration Kevin Burns' comments at the last meeting concerning the bathrooms and what it would take for his staff to maintain that. Selectman Morin said I'll clarify that right now then because that seems to keep coming up - manpower. They run Greeley Park in Nashua with two bathrooms, horseshoe pits, tennis courts, basketball courts, public gardens and all that grass that extends over to Manchester Street with one person five days a week. If they can handle that. Benson's doesn't have half of those things that Greeley Park has. When we get into the discussion later, that's going to be my approach is one person for Benson's at this point and then take it to a warrant article to get more manpower.

Selectman McGrath asked do they have the same type of traffic over there that we have at Benson's - the number of people that show up, the buses, and all that. Selectman Morin indicated they have baseball fields in there, soccer fields, they have all kinds of stuff in there absolutely. They do concerts once a week.

Chairman Luszey asked Selectman Morin are you asking the Board at this time...

Selectman Coutu thought he's going to ask what I was going to ask is where are we going right now. I thought we wanted to have a feel for whether or not the Board would even support it at this point. It's very difficult to say you're going to support something not knowing what the cost is and what other costs are going to be associated not only with the maintenance - it gets a little deeper when you start looking at the whole picture. There's additional insurance costs. It's another municipal building. Has anybody looked into liability issues if there's not going to be somebody inside that building or very near that building at all times? What's the real cost of vandalism if people start shoving toilet paper down into the toilets? I'm not saying that this is going to happen or not going to happen. Better safe than sorry. Like everything else, I get frustrated more and more every week when I come to these meetings. It seems to me that what needs to be said is we never have a plan. Everything is just pot shotted. Somebody comes in on a whim and a fancy and wants something, we say go ahead. There's no real plan. There's no real forethought, no real cost analysis and I'm finding more and more week after week this is what's happening. I'm not faulting Benson's. I'm saying this is town wide. This has become problematic. What happens more often than not when it becomes so problematic that we don't know what to do with it, we historically throw it at Kevin Burns. Here you fix it. Make it work. That's not the way this town is supposed to run. That's a real problem. Would I support based on what I know right now, no.

Selectman Morin had a couple of answers to Selectman Coutu. I fully agree with his comment that referenced no plan and since he's opened the door, I was going to bring that up later. Do you want to discuss that later or wait until we talk about the manpower? Chairman Luszey said to bring it up now.

Selectman Morin's suggestion is I fully agree with what he just said and being on the committee, and seeing things that go down, and that e-mail that I handed you all is part of where I'm going with this. My suggestion or a motion will be that we have projects that are on the table being worked on now. Once those are complete, we stop all further things going on in the park and direct the Benson's Committee to update the plan and put together what we're going to do and let's not this week we're going to do the race track, we're going to make some more green stuff, let's stop. It will give Kevin some time and it will give us some time to figure out what we're going to do with a plan for manpower and how we're going to take care of the park.

Selectman Routsis thought that even with adding the bathrooms - with everything we've done with Benson's, it's a great place for people to come but we're adding potential additional manpower, potential additional costs and at some point we have to take that hard look at how do we make it start sustaining itself. Every time something comes here, it's great and it brings more people to the park but it ends up costing us as a town more and we have to try to offset that some.

Chairman Luszey indicated we had an advisory question on the ballot. It was 2 to 1 that said please don't charge. I think we're obligated to take a look at this stuff and I think we're obligated to put it in front of the voters at the true cost of what it's going to cost to do this. They vote with their wallets. If they want public bathrooms and lord knows what else and they're willing to pay for it so be it. They will either say yes or no at the polls. I do agree with Selectman Morin that we need to like put the development of Benson on hold. You drive by there on days like today and the other day and almost every day now. The parking lot is full. It's overflowing out onto the streets - Bush Hill and Kimball Hill. Right there that makes for an unsafe intersection. We keep adding to that. We'll keep adding to the problem of where to park cars. I think we should declare the bounds of what Benson's is going to be and put together - a plan was put together when we first acquired it that talked about every building in there and future, what ifs that could be and all that. Times have changed. We've created a tremendous amount of green space in there. A playground is now there. We've added things that causes a lot of people to come there. That's not necessarily a bad thing but it does necessitate beginning to do it or whatever we're going to do in a much more planful manner. With that, I would tend to agree.

Selectman Morin stated I read the original master plan and the committee and everybody on that committee should be very proud because if you read through it, they have completed a lot of work that was in that. I actually walked through the Benson Park today to make sure and it's in good shape. It was looking good and everything was to where it should be. I think now we got it to this certain point. Let's stop at this point and re-evaluate where we're going and then make

a plan. These people put a lot of time and dedication into it. They've got some good ideas. It's just a matter of what the priorities are and that's what we need to figure out.

Selectman Coutu said another thing that concerns me is that as a municipal leader, this Board should not have to read e-mails to find out what's going on. I received an e-mail and I thank you Selectman McGrath for sending a copy of it to all of us. The Benson Park Committee for example is already looking into putting solar panels on the red barn. We own the red barn. We lease them the inner space - granted they've done an awful lot of work outside. For them to go ahead and make a decision that affects a municipal building that we own without discussing it with us first, without seeking guidance whether or not we want to go that route. How many different directions can we go at once before we just lost total control? That's the frustration I have. We're pot shooting here and there. Nothing seems to be cohesive and what's going to happen is we're going to lose total control of our town and we can't allow that to happen. There are other things that are going on in this town that are just as important if not more important than Benson Park. We've had this focus. All I listen to the past 5 years is about the latrines. We got that resolved now we're going to have a conversation for the next 5 years about bathrooms. Same thing only instead of being portable, it's going to be a solid structure that's going to be refurbished to accommodate that. Again we just keep going left and right, and back and forth, and there's no real direction. We need to take control of it once and for all. We need to put our foot down. We need to put all the parties together. We need to design a plan and the best foundation for that plan is the master plan. We can't keep pot shooting. We can't keep throwing money around like its water.

Selectman Coutu heard that some of the equipment in the playground has been broken and we're repairing that. All these dollars add up. That tree of hope that we had planted at 9/11 is not growing any money is it? No, okay. We just don't have that kind of money. We need to stop, think, focus, and plan. No good municipality works without a great plan. Hopefully we'll get a good planner on board and we'll get the municipality growing. We need to refocus our attention about how we're going to handle the problems at Benson Park.

Selectman McGrath said thus the reason for me requesting the inception to date costs. Kevin is tasked with providing what the number of man hours that he spent lately brining in the lines into the park. This is just one more thing and as I said at the last meeting, it's all well and good and it's all well-intentioned but the voters are going to reach a limit. We're being faced with this. The school is coming in with a grandiose plan for the high school that's not going to be small money. We've got other things that we need to address within the town. Traffic concerns - that's a major issue for us. We haven't really spent any time on that. Trying to come up with an idea of how to correct some of it. I don't know what the answer is. To make changes to the roadway patterns, that's going to be costly. This is for a certain segment of the population and it's not just ours. It's for other municipalities, other towns, other cities that utilize this park. I keep saying I don't us it. I understand the value of it. I understand the beauty of it. It's something that we should be proud of and continue to maintain but there's got to be a limit and it's got to be planned and we haven't done that so far. I've been on the Board. This is my third year. How many times have we seen the Benson's Committee come in with something that they want to do? I think the first thing that I participated in was the railroad station. Then there was a request to bring in water lines and sewer lines - just bringing it into the park and not connecting it with anything. That was estimated to be around \$700,000. I know it came down in value. Then the paving. Now this. It's endless and it's like it's the only project that we have to think about and that's not so. We've got so many other things that should be done and we should be addressing the other infrastructure needs of this town.

Jim Barnes asked to respond to a couple of things that Selectman Coutu said. I haven't seen the e-mail that's been referenced about solar panels. First of all, that was first sent to me last week. The committee has not had any discussion about this. I forwarded it to the Friends of Benson Chairman for his information but at this point, that is as far as I'm concerned it's suggestion at best. We have not pursued this and I'm not sure where that would go. Certainly the town owns that building and solar panels if they were put there are a part of the outside of the building. We would not be able to go anywhere without the Board of Selectmen's support on that.

If Chairman Luszey recalled, the last thing we did with the Sustainability Committee is they were going to look at that. Selectman McGrath noted that's where that e-mail came from.

Jim Barnes said it's early discussion and that's about it right at this point. There is no plan for that. There might be but I don't know. Certainly at this point there is no plan to do that. The second thing is there's a lot of reference to master plan. If you look at that original master plan, it's from 15 years ago. There's a lot of stuff in there that is not where the park is today. The train station was going to be a greeting center out on Route 111. We know that that's not what happened with the train station. So there's a lot of things in that original master plan that would not be feasible today.

Chairman Luszey said that's actually kind of my point. We had a plan 15 years ago and we developed the park to this point. It needs to be updated to reflect what the forward thinking is based on what we've learned bringing it to this point and capacities, costs, and upkeep, etc.

Mr. Barnes asked to address that specifically. A year ago we did have a session where we tried to break down some projects and put it into a CIP type of plan - 5 years looking out, a number of different projects. The restrooms was one of their projects. I think it was the number two or number three priority and that was presented here.

Chairman Luszey said let me ask you and maybe this can be like bring it home for me if you're all done. What is the end state what does Benson look like? Mr. Barnes thought we have to keep it within the restrictions of the deed meaning passive recreation. We would have to have some kind of services - that's what the restroom is for. Probably have to have some people in there on a regular basis whether that's every day, all day, I don't know but as far as maintainability of the park goes and making sure things are like that. Chairman Luszey said what I'm talking about is like the train station. We know what it planned for. We know where it's parked today. Jim Barnes indicated there is a resident in town who has come forward voluntarily to take a look at whether it would be feasible to use that train station for a museum for the B&M Railroad. Chairman Luszey thought that's where I think we're having the heartburn. Someone came forward and said I'd like to think to turn that into a museum. What is the Benson's Committee vision for the end state of that park right now today and if you were to put that down in words and on paper, what would it cost us?

Mr. Barnes thought that was premature to add that information. We would like to see what the proposal is and then we could look at determining costs. Chairman Luszey said you're coming at it from an after the fact. You're waiting for things to show up and saying geez that sounds like a good idea why don't you put a little proposal together and we'll think about it versus being proactive and saying in 10 years from now the park is done. It's built out and here's what it looks like being build out. That's what we get to plan to. If you take a look at Walt Disney, Chairman Luszey stated he did that. Years ago when he laid out Walt Disney World - Frontier Land, and I don't know what else he has out there. He had all those little places all laid out and said this is what I want each area to be and to do this. I don't think we've done that with Benson. It's an after the fact that we kind of say that sounds like kind of a cool idea we'll run with that.

Jim Barnes said that's certainly something we can do but I don't think you're going to have a complete picture of it going forward. For example the 9/11 Memorial. That was not in the original plan but it was an opportunity to put something in there like that. It's very significant for the town. That wouldn't have been in a master plan. Chairman Luszey didn't disagree with that because that was an unforeseen event. At some point in time, the committee has to say Benson's is built out. We can't add anything more. We shouldn't expand anything more because we'll be taking out wetlands, and forest, and this that and the other thing. I don't know what that looks like and I don't know how to plan for that.

Selectman Coutu thought there's a point in time and I think it's now that we have to realize that what we have is all we can support at this time. We can't keep introducing new programs, and new games, and there's talk about a race track which would require removal of trees, a lot of paving, and it's going to attract if there's people hooked on that and they're not from around here but they're from Westford, Massachusetts, and Springfield, Massachusetts. They're going to come up here. They're going to want to have derbies and busloads of people. We can't absorb any more than what we already have with the parking that we have without causing - it becomes real problematic on that street by allowing all these cars to park on that road. They're not supposed to park out there to begin with as I understand. Am I correct? Mr. Barnes stated that is correct. Selectman Coutu noted they can all be ticketed. I certainly don't want to have our police department out there every day ticketing cars every Saturday and Sunday and alienating everybody but at the same time, we have to focus on public safety for the people in that neighborhood. I'm sure that if I lived across the street, I wouldn't be too happy with a lot of people. It's bad enough they're coming in the park. Now they're parking outside. They're walking out in the street. Who knows with what a can of beer whatever. We need to stop and reflect on the master plan and where it's going to go. As Mr. Burns said to me the other day, we had a sit down and had a conversation about it. Where are you going to put these people? Where are they going to park? What is the plan for parking let alone the whole park? What about parking to accommodate the people who want to use the park. I don't know what Greeley Park does for parking. I think they've got a bigger lot than we do. When I went by one Sunday it was packed. There was a concert going on.

Selectman Coutu thought we've lost control and we need to stop and think about what is the reality. The reality is that we're bulging at the seams right now. That's the reality and we can't just keep adding to this park and attract more people when we have no way of accommodating them. We're doing a disservice to our own citizenry who want to use the park and they can't even get in on Saturday and Sunday because we're inundated with people coming in. This business of reserving spaces for these various parties - one of these days we're going to have an all-out, blown out fist fight in that park over - I rented this space. You're not getting this space. We're going to have police officers there. It's going to become a mess. Sometimes I look at it and say I think we've created a monster only because we're losing control. It's a gem. It's a jewel for the community. I think we need to stop doing anything. Just leave it the way it is for now and come up with a plan before we make another decision about where we're going to go with that park.

Selectman Routsis agreed with Selectman Coutu. It is overwhelming for the people that are there and the people that are trying to take care of it. Maybe we need to finish whatever is currently in progress and then take a step back and re-evaluate it.

Selectman Morin said I will be making a motion that we do that but again these people that volunteer have done a lot of work and I want to make sure that they understand that we want them to continue to plan in the future for the park. A couple of things Selectman Coutu said in reference to the insurance and all that. Well if we put one person in the park to take care of the park, they're going to be there whatever they are 8 to 5 whatever the Road Agent decides. So somebody will be in there to watch for vandalism and stuff. It's going to happen by talking with Nashua, they do not have problems. There were no vandalism reports at the police department in Nashua and even called Merrimack. They had no reports of vandalism in their public bathrooms.

Selectman Morin stated the other problem that we have that needs to be addressed and I'm going to bring this up and I was going to bring it up later also is there's question of responsibilities and roles. We need to bring all the groups together. Chairman Luszey stopped him right there. How many groups are there? Is there one Benson Committee or is there multiple committees? Jim Barnes indicated there is one committee. Chairman Luszey asked would you make the assertion that the volunteer cleanup days is through your committee as well as the landscape committee. Mr. Barnes stated the landscape committee is a subcommittee. The gentleman of the landscape committee report is a member of the Benson Park Committee. They have a little charter that they're looking for things. Right now they're really not expanding much. They're just trying to maintain what's there - the garden spots that are there. They're not expanding that. Chairman Luszey asked if there was a trails and park committee. Mr. Barnes said there was a trails committee but that has kind of petered out. There's a couple of people that are very active still and they're doing work on the trails. They're not looking to expand trails if that's what you're looking for.

Selectman Morin said my next thing is to have the Road Agent, the Benson Committee, the Friends of Benson all come in and discuss. I've gotten several questions in the committee meetings what are our roles. We need to get that clarified so they understand. Again, I'm going to bring up the e-mails.

Chairman Luszey asked to expand a little more on that. I just asked the Chairman of the Benson Committee if they're the oversight committee for that. I'm not sure now. Selectman Morin said he clarified for me tonight. I thought the landscape committee was a whole separate committee but he just clarified that. Still they're out there doing stuff that I wasn't aware that existed. Just have people that are doing things on their own sometimes and the e-mail I gave you was the perfect example and that's why we need to get these people together and explain to them how its run, what their responsibilities are. A question I got on the committee - are we able to seek prices for the construction of the bathroom? I talked with Mr. Malizia and we will be going through him for whatever they need. We need to sit down with them again because the committee has changed over the years and probably this information wasn't passed down. It's time we sit down and explain to them what they're doing.

Selectman McGrath said when we have that conversation can we do that in a workshop because I can anticipate or foresee that that's going to be a lengthy discussion. I think that we should just devote whatever time we need to those discussions instead of at a regular board meeting.

Motion by Selectman Morin that once the projects that are in process now are complete that we task the Benson Committee to put together a plan of where the park is going to go 5, 10 years.

Chairman Luszey asked can we get a list of what those might be. I don't know other than the water and sewer coming, I don't know any other project that's in the works.

Selectman McGrath suggested can you rephrase your motion to allow them to go out and get quotes for the bathrooms because that's the project that you're interested in getting accomplished as the last project for Benson's. So allowing them to go out and at least get bids or determine what would be necessary to have the bathrooms constructed or installed and whatever else would be appropriate for the maintenance and care of those bathrooms and nothing else.

Selectman Morin wanted to clarify one more thing. I don't want the committee to feel that the work they do in the park every day is banned now either. They can continue what they do for the upkeep. It's just a matter of we need to figure out where we're going. Understand what I'm saying? Okay.

Selectman McGrath said if the motion is reworded in that way so that it's just bathrooms and allowing them to at least come up with pricing and all of that, then I'll second the motion. I'm not in favor of them doing anything else.

Selectman Morin stated the reason I said projects in the works is because the racetrack needs to be discussed on Thursday night and that is a project that they voted on to start looking at. That's why I phrased it the way I did. They're going to discuss that on Thursday night. It's on the agenda.

Selectman McGrath said I'm just going to jump in. They can talk about it all they want. They can talk about flying to the moon and back if they want. I don't care. The only thing that I'm willing to consider is the bathrooms. Nothing else. We've got to get a handle on the costs that we've already incurred for this park and what we're going to be anticipating if we allow them to put in bathrooms and that we're going to have to maintain and take care of. I'm not willing to consider anything else. I did see an e-mail from Mr. Burns concerning that race project.

Selectman Routsis was in agreement with Selectman McGrath. I think for projects that are in the works, it's obviously the bathrooms that we talked about but really anything that we've broken ground on. We haven't broken ground on per say a race track or anything like that. Discussions can be had about it but I think it's finishing the projects that we've physically broken ground on that are currently in the works and need to be completed and then just getting an idea about the bathrooms and just redeveloping the master plan.

For the viewing audience, Selectman Coutu said I have motioned to the Road Agent Kevin Burns if he would come up and he agreed to come up just to set a foundation. Mr. Burns and I have had exchanges of e-mails, a good one-on-one last Monday I believe. We sat down together. Selectman Morin and I have had discussions and an extensive discussion yesterday relative to all of this. I've seen a lot of chair committees come and go in my lifetime and not just this municipality a lot of them. Mr. Barnes is one of the most congenial, most diplomatic, most accommodating chairman I have ever met in my life. You do an outstanding job in trying to appease everybody's whim and fancy. You try to be all inclusive and there comes a point where I think that we have to come to the realization that we are overwhelmed right now. I think the bathroom project is not a small project. It's going to take a lot of time and attention away from other things in order to get a complete package together, all of the costs associated with it, and at the same time the Friends of Bensons have their own special interests. We don't care what their building does. I think one of the problems that we have is a lot of the makeup of the board are all Friends of Benson members. Sometimes I find in the year that I served on that board that their partial to things that kind of benefit them and I would too if that was my committee. I think you try to accommodate everybody. I think everybody has to come to the realization that we can't have 17 chiefs in there and 2 indians.

Selectman Coutu said this Board tasked Mr. Burns with the responsibility of Benson Park. The committee needs to know that if Mr. Burns wishes to pursue this course at the present time that he is to do so hands free. That no one is going to tell him what they want, what their priorities are. They can tell him what a problem is. He'll decide if and when it's going to be done. I think that's one of the problems that we have. I think that this business about the racetrack, that was a fad many years ago. Whether it will catch on again who knows. I'm sure there's people still out there with these remote cars and like to race them. I don't think that - and I'll let Mr. Burns address it - I don't think he was consulted prior to everybody deciding yeah this is the way to go of what is involved and how much work is going to be involved in that park. I don't think anyone knows including us exactly what Mr. Burns' problems are with his own department as it is in terms of all of the things that he has to do. Elements play a factor in road paving, although you said it didn't hold you up much this year. There are a lot of things that can happen. We have a severe storm tomorrow morning and you have all your crews out for the next three days cleaning up tree limbs. You have to preplan. Mr. Burns based on your experience, I think it would help the Board greatly - and I know you're not bashful - put the cards on table for us in terms of Benson Park.

Kevin Burns said where do I start. I'm going to equate Benson's to growing pains we had with our trash contract. If you recall, I had to come to the board as the trash contract evolved and I said you know if you want me to be in charge of it, you have to put me in charge of it. You can't tell me to go out and get a contract and then have a committee run that \$1.5 - \$2 million contract one night a month for 2 hours. Benson's has become whether we want to acknowledge it or not a multi-million dollar investment that is difficult to be administered 1 or 2 nights a month for an hour or two. It's becoming a full time job for someone.

Chairman Luszey asked becoming or has become. Mr. Burns said it has become. You have tasked me - I believe I used your words - I'm park administrator. I have taken the bull by the horns and I make the day-to-day decisions. Until you people tell me that I am no longer making those decisions, I will continue to.

Selectman McGrath wanted to make it clear that I'll support the motion as stated. That doesn't mean that I'm going to support the ultimate decision. I want to make that clear for everybody here, everybody that's watching. I think it's a worthwhile project to at least investigate. That doesn't mean that I'm going to support the end result.

In terms of the wording in the motion and I'm not sure it's clear, Chairman Luszey said the way I heard it is to complete the projects underway. I don't believe that is the intent. It is to complete I believe the water and sewer project that the voters voted on and then to bring forward a complete plan for the bathrooms. That's it because that doesn't mean we're going to complete it. Very different.

Selectman Morin said question on that before I specifically make that motion. We don't have enough money to complete those projects. Does that commit us? Selectman Coutu thought that with Mr. Burns here we need to get a report from him. Where do we stand? He had so much money and now he's run out of money. Now I don't think we have any holes in the ground and if you repaired those but where do we stand with that project? Kevin Burns said substantially completed the water and the sewer. An invert to finishing the sewer, the water is complete. By Thursday, the project will be 100 percent done. Water and sewer which I committed to do, most of the funds of the \$98,000, the majority are going to be used up. I will probably use between \$80,000 - \$83,000 to complete the water and the sewer. There's been no work on any further utilities.

Chairman Luszey asked what are we running out of then. Selectman Coutu said electricity. No money to bring in electricity. Chairman Luszey didn't believe electricity was part of that. Jim Barnes indicated electricity was mentioned in that warrant article. Gas was not. In my opinion, Mr. Burns said there is not enough funding to bring electricity into the park with what's left. Chairman Luszey said that risk was known at that time because the amount that you suggested and the amount that was put on the warrant article was too vastly different numbers. Mr. Burns said that was correct. Chairman Luszey stated when you say you run out of money, I'm not on the same page right now. We did what we could with the funds that were made available to us by the voters. If one wanted to reduce the amount of funds to get it through the voters, then that is the risk that the committee took.

Selectman McGrath had a question. There isn't going to be electricity in the bathrooms that they're planning because there's no money to do it. First of all, am I correct in that assumption? Kevin Burns said you are correct. I think they would need to budget to bring in the electricity as an additional cost to do construction on the bathrooms. Selectman McGrath said you need lights and you need electricity if you have the electrical hand dryers. I would assume that you'd want soap and water for people after they use these bathrooms. That's what I mean about this is endless. It's like hitting a domino and all of a sudden you start to see all of them flip over. It never stops. It just never stops.

Chairman Luszey asked how much would it cost to bring the electric portion of this in. Mr. Burns said I have no idea. I got a price 5, 6, 7, 8 years ago and it was in the high 30s with us doing the digging. That was quite a long time ago and I don't know. It depends on what you wanted for electricity and bringing how far.

Chairman Luszey asked Mr. Barnes when you presented the warrant article at the deliberative session in the budget committee, it showed a path for electric and water coming in and then one for electric and I believe to your point you were doing the digging but the electric was Eversource. Jim Barnes agreed and we're trying to reach out to them again and made some contact at the end of last week to talk to somebody about that. The warrant article if you remember, the original overall plan that the engineering firm did there were three phases to the whole project. The warrant article covered the first phase and that was primarily to bring in the three utilities - water, sewer, and electricity to the elephant barn because of the commitment the town has to the Friends of Benson for providing services...Chairman Luszey said what I'm hearing is if we're consumed some \$80,000 of the \$98,000 for the water and sewer piece, what's the projected cost for the electric? Mr. Barnes said that's what we need to find out. Chairman Luszey asked didn't we find that out when we bid this work out to get this number? Mr. Barnes said there was some discussion with contacts in Eversource about what would be feasible. At that point, it was rolled into that \$98,000. Again we're talking about electricity to the elephant barn. We're not talking about electricity to restroom facility somewhere else in the park.

Just another point. Selectman McGrath said the \$80,000 that has been spend so far just to bring in the sewer and the water doesn't include the hours that were spent - I'm making that a point because that gets rolled into the cost. We're paying for our Public Works Department but they have to spend the time in order to do that. It should be collected as a cost so that you can understand - it's not an additional cost but it should be included so that we know that we spent \$80,000 just to bring in water and sewer alone. Not the labor that it took to bring it in.

Selectman Coutu said that's not correct. I think Mr. Burns can address that. Kevin Burns indicated I had said to the Benson people when I gave them the estimate that I would have to charge my labor to the warrant article because I didn't think it was fair to charge the sewer utility users or the water utility users to run these utilities strictly for the park. I have charged the labor for the construction to the warrant article. Selectman McGrath asked so that \$80,000 that he's talking about that has been spent so far includes your labor. Mr. Burns said not my equipment cost but my labor cost. Labor and materials only.

Selectman Morin rescinded his motion to make a new motion. So we're all set if I say it's not going to commit us to electricity if I put that in the motion to meet the warrant article. Chairman Luszey indicated it would be up to the \$98,000 that's what you commit yourself to. Selectman Morin wanted to clarify before because if somebody comes to us later and says well. Chairman Luszey stated the warrant article is good for \$98,000 so whatever he's got left.

Motion by Selectman Morin that they complete water and sewer up to \$98,000 and then after that we task the Benson Park Committee to come up with a 5 or 10 year plan for the park.

Selectman Coutu noted and the bathroom recommendation. I think it's too wordy.

Chairman Luszey asked to do two motions.

Selectman Morin said okay we'll do that first one for the electric, water and sewer up to the \$98,000 and task the Benson Committee to do the planning other than the bathroom.

Chairman Luszey said no with that one for the bathroom. Those two go together. That's kind of where we're at.

Selectman McGrath said that's just for the water and the sewer that's already been brought in it - \$80,000 plus the additional up to \$98,000, so another \$18,000 to be dedicated to the electricity that needs to be brought in for support of that. That doesn't include the installation of the bathrooms.

Chairman Luszey said to make it 3 motions. One is to finish the projects that are currently underway which is the water, electric, and sewer utilities brought into the elephant barn up to \$98,000.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to complete the sewer, water (utility) project at the elephant barn up to \$98,000.

Selectman Coutu had a question. How much money is spent Mr. Burns about \$80,000? There's about \$18,000. Do we pursue electric if they come in and they say it's going to cost you \$40,000 for us to be in electricity? Do you have the money or don't you or do we call it a day? There's \$18,000 going back to the general fund. Whatever the balance is. Steve Malizia said if you don't spend something, it reverts back to the...Chairman Luszey indicted this is a non-lapsing so wouldn't it stay there. Mr. Malizia said in theory you could sit until...it wouldn't lapse until you say it lapses. Selectman Coutu said we can shift it. Chairman Luszey said it would go back on June 30. Selectman Coutu said I wouldn't mind leaving it until such time as the committee has decided what they're going to need for the bathroom facility and then we can address it at that time. I just wanted to make sure that if they say it's \$39,000 or \$42,000 to bring in electricity to...they're only going to bring it into the barn at this stage?

Jim Barnes said that was the initial intent for the first stage. There was some extra work with transformers and so on to expand down the hill but that was just preparation for that.

Selectman Coutu said the estimate that you got Mr. Burns was to bring it all the way down to a potential gazebo, correct? Underground and over to the gorilla cage. Mr. Burns said correct. Selectman Coutu thought it may be a lot less than \$36,000. If they can do it for \$18,000 and we say it's a go, get it because they're only going to bring it to the elephant barn and I'd like to see something done because I don't trust the wiring that's in there. They've put a lot of work in it and I don't want to see them lose the building. I will support this particular motion.

Selectman Routsis had a quick question because you had mentioned and also updating some transformers. Jim Barnes said not updating. There are no transformers there now beyond what's coming off the poles. This was to put in a transformer say up at the top of the hill that would then be the base for running the extension down the hill later as part of the next phase. That was the original plan. Selectman Routsis asked is it even feasible I don't know much about electricity to be able to get two different prices - one with doing that and one without and see if there's a big cost difference? Mr. Barnes said we can certainly ask those kinds of questions yes.

Selectman McGrath wanted to make a statement. I am not going to vote for this motion. I was willing to at least allow them to go out and get bids and come back with pricing for the bathrooms. Now looking at this \$98,000 just for water, sewer and electricity and that's no guarantee that it's not going to be more than the \$18,000 that would be remaining for them to utilize now. That doesn't even come close to what it's going to cost to actually install the bathrooms. I know that that's a separate motion but in good conscious, I can't vote for this.

Chairman Luszey said we're only reaffirming the warrant article.

Selectman Routsis said we're bound to that \$98,000 for electricity either way.

Selectman McGrath noted my conscious is not allowing me to vote for this. I understand what you're saying but I just can't do it.

Vote: Motion carried 4-1. Selectman McGrath in opposition.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Coutu, that the Benson Park Committee move forward on a warrant article on pricing for bathrooms at Benson Park.

Selectman Coutu thought everything has been said. I said initially I don't think I could support it presently but in all fairness to the committee who have put a lot of work into it and it's my way of saying thank you. Let's look at the numbers. If they can get the work done between now and January which is the time that's allowed for the warrant article...Steve Malizia said we actually want to have it done before December...Selectman Coutu said we can modify it in the December to January timeframe. If we can come up with something that is palatable that we think the voters might be receptive to, I'm more than willing to put it on the ballot and see what they say. If they say no, it's not. If they say yes, it's another amenity they want us to proceed with and I will support it on that basis. I'd like to hear what the votes have to say but we need to have a plan not like this water/sewer/electricity. That was guess work at best. Some one person on that committee was supposed to get certain numbers that was not really forthcoming with any numbers. That's not you Mr. Barnes. I trust that you will guide that along. You've been guiding this bathroom along trying to keep everybody as a cohesive unit and aiming in that direction. I'd like to see us proceed in that direction and come up with a solid estimated cost and when I mean solid estimated cost, I think that I allude to some of the remarks that Selectman McGrath made is I want to know what the labor costs are. I want to know what the toilet paper costs for a year. Soap and detergent costs. What our electric usage is going to cost because we're going to be paying the electric bill. Sewer and water we don't bill the town do we? Mr. Malizia said the water and sewer utilities we bill the town for utilities.

Selectman Coutu indicated we need to know all of those costs and we can get an estimate of bathroom sizes, what the typical daily use is so that can all be estimated out. I think that if we have a realistic plan and we put it to the voters, then we'll have a good feel for where they want to go. I will support it.

Vote: motion carried 4-1. Selectman McGrath in opposition.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to halt all future development in Benson Park and task the Benson Park Committee come up with a plan for 5 and 10 years out, carried 5-0.

B. Library Lights Project Update

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Good evening everyone. Hopefully this will be a bit shorter. Elvis Dhima wanted to give a little bit of history about this project. In 2009/2010, the town decided to pursue federal aid through CMAQ project which basically gives you money to reduce emissions. In this case, it was the Library lights also known as the Library Commons - the 3 intersections that we have out there. As you can see in the memo in 2012/2013, they took traffic counts. It was about 42,000 a day at that time. Considered I believe per Mr. Cashell's discussion second busiest intersection in the State of New Hampshire. Seventy-five percent of that was along Route 102 and Ferry Street. They were in the design. Those two routes were considered as the primary ones so that's why you see a lot of green light on those two routes versus the rest of them are not. Soon after the work was completed late 2015, we saw some significant improvements along 102 and Ferry. Unfortunately Library is struggling. Chase has its good days and bad days. Highland is a little bit short. In October of 2016, the Planning Board decided to move forward with additional improvements at this intersection and identified as a capital improvement project - CIP. Soon after that, the Town Planner Mr. Cashell presented that case to the Board of Selectmen at the time. You approved to move forward with it and that's how this project landed on my desk.

Basically what was proposed as an alternative adoptive signal system, Mr. Dhima stated it works with cameras and the best way I can explain it to you is a police officer where the light goes out he can determine what the best action is when there's no lights available. If he sees a lot of traffic in one direction, it will stop the traffic on the other one and let it through. The problem with the Common is that as you know there's 3 lights. So they need to work together and they need to figure out what's best. What I did was I came up with the Highway Department. We reached out to our own contract for the traffic light needs and basically we assessed that the existing traffic equipment at the Common is McCains. We reached out to them to see if they actually do adoptive signaling systems. It just happened they have their own software. A lot of companies out there, they have their own software. It's basically the same thing but different things. Different products. They flew one of their team members from California to Hudson. They basically opened every single traffic box that we have out there - 3 of them. We assessed it. I didn't ask if they could do something or not because I didn't want them to get an answer. They didn't send a salesman. They sent a team leader. They downloaded the data. They got what they needed and they'll get back to us with a quote working with Electric Light which is basically our consultant.

Basically Elvis Dhima said what I got is a quote for design build product. That's one of the options in front of you tonight. What we would achieve with that option is McCain's has the equipment. They understand what it does. They also have the software that works with the equipment to basically better work. They'll utilize their engineers on staff to do the design because this would be approached a design build and then they'll have a contractor that we already work with to execute that. What are we going to get out of this? We get 3 cameras that will provide us live data. The first phase will be we install the cameras at 3 intersections. We get data within a month basically of what's happening out there. We utilize it for our design. I think part of the problem with the original phase of this is that they got the data in 2013 and then 2012/2013 when we executed it, it was 2015/2016. A lot of things change. Part of it could be that Library lights were seeing 25 percent of the traffic. You could very well make a case and maybe that 25 percent is 33 percent now. You're seeing as much traffic on Library as the other ones. It doesn't help that we don't have the two schools next door. It doesn't help that we have a guardian over there that is very protective of the school buses. There's a lot of things going on.

Basically what it comes down to is a better system to operate the intersection overall. Elvis Dhima said currently the 3 traffic boxes are working together. We've tweaked it as much as we can on a manual setup to take a second of green light here and put it over there and take we take it over there and we put it over here. We've done that 100 times. We can't seem to get it just right because every time we change something, something else happens. That's where the adoptive signal system comes in with the Gridsmart. It makes decision based on what it sees right out there. The designer sets up parameters. One best example I explained it to you is largest areas of backup on Library like during the school year it can go back 500 - 600 feet. If the designer sets it up as the camera sees the traffic backup 500 feet or 1,000 feet, it will stop the traffic on 102 and Ferry. It won't allow Library Street to get through. I'm not talking about just one through intersection but also the second one which is 102 and Highland. That's what causes the problem there. I can only process about 15 cars at a time because I get a green light, I get those guys through. Then they wait there another cycle and get them through. What you need is almost a green light on both intersections - Library and Ferry and 102 and Highland to just allow that traffic coming from Lowell through Central and get through Library. Those things we can do manually but they seem to have the technology to set it up that way.

That's what we did. At the same time, Mr. Dhima said I worked with our consultant to set up parameter for design build if you want to go out to bid and see what's out here and hopefully we get what we get and hopefully it works out. That's the second option. The issues I see with that is finger pointing. It wasn't me. It's you. It's not the equipment, it's the software. It's not the software, it's the contractor. That's happened in the past. We've been there before. The third

option is do nothing which I don't think is an option but I have to put it in front of you. Basically I think and Highway believe the Road Agent, myself, and the staff that takes care of our traffic needs out there believe that option 1 is the way to go. I'm here to take any questions and discuss the matter.

Chairman Luszey said your option 1 is \$14,700 over what we approve last time so who's making that up. Elvis Dhima said the 150 was a number given to the Town Planner back in 2016 basically saying we believe it's going to be roughly this much. We got a quote from anyone. It was just simply we believe it's going to be this much based on a number in 2016. What we are looking at right now is the actual quote. The actual number that basic and physical traffic design build needs that we have out there. When we looked at this originally, we were like all right its new technology between 125 to 150 - something like that. That's something that was presented to you but there wasn't an actual quote that we got from anyone. It was just simply a rough idea. What you're seeing right now is basically an increase of 10 percent to what was presented to the board. It's all corridor money. Steve Malizia said these are monies we collect for traffic improvement. So it's corridor money.

Chairman Luszey asked if there was enough in that account to cover it. Mr. Dhima said yes. It's all corridor money. There's not taxpayer's money here involved at all.

Selectman Coutu asked are there corridor monies available to cover the cost. Mr. Dhima said yes.

Selectman McGrath noted Elvis and I have talked about this so I know precisely what he's proposing. The traffic numbers that were collected in 2012 through 2013 that was 4 years ago. I assume that they've increased and if so, do you have a percentage increase of those numbers? Elvis Dhima said I don't have the number yet but we will have that when we install the cameras. I'll know exactly what we have a month prior to executing our design. Part of that gap in past was you get data 2 years ago, 3 years ago - they're not good after 2 to 3 years. We will not have that problem now.

Selectman Routsis asked are we going to take into account the new apartment building that's being built right over the bridge and the traffic that that's going to potentially bring in for this system. Mr. Dhima said that was an excellent question. I'm going to go back a little bit. Chairman Luszey said it's a one word answer - no. Mr. Dhima said the reason the things were done a certain way originally was because you had federal money and you had to do things a certain way. Can I say that maybe when we go back and do this again Hudson will be given priority, yes? It's a fine line. A lot of people say well there's a lot of traffic going through Nashua, coming back, we're serving them, 102 and Ferry, what about us - Lowell? That will be addressed during this phase. There was a lot you couldn't do much. Your hands were tied. You had federal money involved. You had to identify...

Chairman Luszey interrupted and said that's not totally true either. NHDOT changed the parameters for when those apartments the impact study to the middle of the river versus that intersection. I was there. Elvis Dhima asked do you remember when we went to NRPC and we fought that. All of us represented for NRPC for Town of Hudson said do not do this. This is not right. They basically took that study line from the bridge. It's at the bridge now but originally it was at Pelham Street. It was including a portion of Hudson and they said no this is not going to impact Hudson. It's not a regional project. We're just going to look at the project as of the bridge. I'm like where are they going to go once they cross the bridge? That's just how it works. It's just very unfortunate and that's why I said we have to start looking to what's maybe best for us versus what's overall because that's what they're doing to us.

Selectman McGrath said just to continue. I just have one more thing but that was one of my notes here. Is there a possibility of you working with the Highway Safety Committee to try and come up with a plan? I don't even know if it's feasible but to look at other routes from Lowell Road, Central Street to get up to Ferry Street and then either have them cross over that way. So it's avoiding the Library Street bottleneck. I drive it. When I'm coming up here - now I've gotten a little bit smarter - not much but a little and a lot of times now I try to avoid Library Street and I come around to Chase Street. That doesn't always save me a whole lot of time either.

Elvis Dhima explained it's unfortunate that we have to operate on let's avoid this street because there's too much traffic and I'll go around. Then a lot of people do that. WE shouldn't have to do that but unfortunately that's where we're at. Selectman McGrath stated its reality and people are trying to get up to 102 and travel out that way and in the afternoon when the school buses - and you're right about the crossing guard. She's tough. Mr. Dhima said she's doing her job I get it. Selectman McGrath said she is but it's not always easy to get through there. People are trying to head out to 102 and the traffic lights don't always cooperate especially if there's an emergency in the area. I'm not going to point to anybody in particular. That causes a bottleneck too. It exasperates the problem. If there's a way to at least come up with an alternate route for people, I don't know if it's wise or not but that might be something that the Highway Safety Committee should take a look at and see if we could encourage an alternate route so that they avoid that bottleneck. Mr. Dhima said we can discuss but at the end of the day you can't make people take a route you want. You can make it as an alternative. You see that a lot with the emergency routes. The highway is shut down, takes this, and that simply never happens. People would just rather stay on the highway. We can definitely look at it absolutely. I think though that there's a little bit of that. We need to kind of look at the overall picture of the town to where we're heading. We've seen a lot of traffic in other areas as well - Bush Hill, Wason Road that they were regular routes and now you've seen that effect of circumferential highway not being out there. It's happening and there was a case that came in front of the

Highway Committee about people can - there's a two-way stop on Wason and Musquash and people can't make that because they're stopping there and they can't make a left or right because there's so much traffic on Wason. We're looking into that. We bring a third party so we're not bias about it to kind of see what the needs are. You're going to see a lot of that and unfortunately there's a lot of people that are bypassing.

Selectman Morin said a while back they talked about Library and Chase Street being one way. That won't work? Elvis Dhima said we can look at that. Highland can be one way. They can take a leg off right there. It doesn't have to be a two way. Chairman Luszey said we have a lot to cover tonight so I don't think we should...Mr. Dhima indicated there are things that can be done. I don't think the Highway Committee can do that. I think if the Board is serious about it, we can get someone to look at it. Chairman Luszey said to bring these to the Safety Committee and come back in a couple of months with what we know.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Morin, to pursue Option 1 and waive the bid process and award the contract for the installation and programming of the GridSmart cameras and adaptive signal system to Electric Light, Inc. using Route 102 Corridor Account #2000-2070-000-091, in an amount not to exceed \$164,700, carried 5-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Recommendation - Design and Build Services for Stand-by Generator/Fire Pump - Windham Booster Station Generator

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

As you remember last year, Elvis Dhima noted we've done significant improvements to the Windham Booster Station. We replaced existing domestic pumps - 3 existing ones with 5 new ones. After the work was done, we identified the remaining of the items that needed to be addressed that was the removal of an existing gas fire pump with a new electrical one, brand new control system for that, and the existing fire pump already there, a building adjacent to the existing one with 350 kilowatt generator to power the entire booster station. We went out to bid. We had a non-mandatory pre-bid meeting and basically you have two quotes in front of you tonight. One is from Weston & Sampson for \$237,300 and the other one is from the TBuck Construction for \$712,986. My recommendation to the Board and Finance Director is to award the contract to Weston & Sampson the lowest bidder.

Motion Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to award the bid for design and build services for the Stand Up Generator and Fire Pump to Weston & Sampson, the lowest bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$237,300 with funds from the water Operations Large Operating Equipment (5592-401) as recommended by the Town Engineer and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept delivery or make payment prior to July 1, 2017.

Selectman Coutu had a question. In reviewing the two bids, can you tell me why they are half a million dollars apart? Elvis Dhima said the engineer's estimate was about \$385,000. We budgeted \$450,000. My take on it is I would look at a bid that's 50 percent over. Anything over that they either completely missed the scope of work or they just kind of threw a number there to see if it stuck. It didn't make sense for me that in the RFQ that we have out there was an engineer's estimate of \$385,000 and it went over by 100 percent. It's one thing if you had a bid for 450, 475, 500, I can deal with that. Twenty-five percent, 35 percent but they were over 100 percent. It's just simply they just threw it out there to see if it would stick. Weston & Sampson was a little bit lower because they did Phase I. They were very very familiar with the equipment. They were very familiar with what needs to be done. They already have their learning curve through Phase I which took about 6 months. They felt more comfortable. If you don't know the equipment, if you have to bring a lot of subcontractors in, a lot of people for the equipment, a lot people for the controllers, electrical, plumbing, communications, security, it adds up. Weston & Sampson is going to handle everything through design build because it was done as a design build all in house. Their construction division does \$30 million worth of work. This is their cup of tea I guess.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

- B. Recommendation - Industrial Drive Sewage Pump Station

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Thank you. Elvis Dhima noted my last item is Industrial Drive sewer pump. This station was put on line in 1982. It serves residential, commercial, and industrial areas. Basically the pumps are about 35 years old. They're beyond repairing so Highway and Engineering teamed up together to do a design build for this. Basically replacing the existing pumps with bigger and better pumps, control system through a design build. We had 7 parties that attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting and we got only one. We budgeted 275 and the bid came in at \$233,900. I'm here to ask you to approve the contract that's recommended by the Road Agent, Finance Director, and myself.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to award the bid for design and construction services for the Industrial Drive Sewage Pump Station to Weston & Sampson, the only bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$233,900 with funds from the Sewer Fund construction department (5564-608) as recommended by the Town Engineer and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept delivery or make payment prior to July 1, 2017, carried 5-0.

C. Future of Senior Affairs Committee

Chairman Luszey invited Steve Porter, Chairman of the Senior Affairs Committee, to join us at the table. I actually had a conversation with Mr. Porter about a week or so now maybe a little over inviting not only him here but kind of filling him in on the reason why. Basically there's been a number of the Board members discussing what the role of the Senior Affairs Committee is at this juncture given that the committee as originally chartered by this Board to go off and work with members of the town to 1) get a facility built meeting the needs of the seniors and then 2) once it was built, to basically bring it on line. Since that time, the Board of Selectmen has hired a part-time Senior Services Coordinator to work programming within that environment and we do have a number of openings on this committee. We need to have a conversation now what is the future if any and if there is a future for this committee, what is their charter because it certainly has changed. I'll open it up to the Board.

Selectman Routsis had a question. I haven't been receiving any e-mails. I'm still your liaison so I just want to make sure when there are meetings. Steve Porter indicated they're quarterly. Selectman Routsis indicated I didn't get the last one. We've been having some e-mail trouble.

Chairman Luszey asked Mr. Porter if you would give us a little update as to what your committee is up to. Steve Porter stated what we've done from the outset was we helped in the development of some policies and procedures. We have embarked on developing a strategic plan that would also put into motion some sort of reporting that could be brought to the committee on a periodic basis just to get an update as to what's going on. We conducted a survey amongst the members of the senior center to see if there were certain things that they wanted to see implemented that may not have already been implemented. Overall the survey came back very positive. Dave and Lori overwhelmingly the survey indicated that they're doing a great job. We also in developing the plan wanted to make sure that there would be some sort of process in place if there were ever a need for considering expanding or if something else came up that there would be a way to go about or a process to look at helping.

Chairman Luszey indicated you morphed the original charter mission statement of the committee because when Lori was brought on, and you guys can correct me if I'm wrong, that then became under the operational aspect of the senior center in that group now falls under the Recreation Department. When I think about who's driving the charge if you will, it's the Recreation Department. If there's a need for expansion, I would look to the Recreation Director to say I need to expand versus your committee. Steve Porter indicated we would be there from a consultative or advisory role not to really drive something like that. That certainly is more his responsibilities. When I looked at the by-laws, they outline what the duties of the committee are. Those things include looking and approving the budget, oversight of the center building and grounds, monitor the week of the center, monitor the work of the center director, and adopt rules and regulations for operation of the center.

Chairman Luszey asked when were those adopted by this Board. Mr. Porter didn't know. It's on the town website - the by-laws. I can hand them out to everybody if they want to take a look at it. That's why when you said that the committee was formed just to see the initial...Chairman Luszey indicated I was part of the original committee so I'm very familiar with what it was for and you became part of it when I was leaving. Mr. Porter said if that was truly the initial genesis of the committee, then I would say then its run its course. If it's supposed to act and uphold these duties, then whether it's the Senior Affairs Committee or some other committee that would do that...Chairman Luszey said I look to the Recreation Director now to be that oversight.

Selectman Coutu said as a senior member of this Board, I was a strong advocate of having a Senior Affairs Committee. Now we've reached a point where knowing that this discussion was eventually going to be coming before us, I took it upon myself to sit down with the Senior Affairs Coordinator and I put it point blank. The very first question to her - do you find that the Senior Affairs Committee is of any value to you as the director of operations for the senior center and do you think that it's outlived its usefulness. The answer was no and yes. No she sees no value in continuing with the Senior Affairs Committee and she feels that it's outlived its usefulness. My opinion is in terms of falling back on something that the Chairman pointed out which is something that you said in monitoring the budget and you kind of hinted like monitoring - even the Director, that's a personnel matter. That all falls under the purview of the Recreation Director as is presently set up. As far as surveys are concerned, I think she does ongoing surveys and asks people all the time what they'd like to do at the senior center and she tries to accommodate them as best she can with the space. I think there's going to be a proposal if not this evening or in the near future to consider opening a fifth day a week so that they can spread out a little bit. I think it's well run. Personally I appreciate all of the work that the committee did. I personally don't see a need to continue the committee beyond this point to be blunt about it.

Selectman Routsis said I had also spoke with Lori in the past about it. My first meeting the bulk of the meeting was her just reading through the magazine that she makes. That seems to be the bulk of most meetings and then it will get into some other little things. We joked around about it being the Lori Bowen hour because that's what she does. She reads

that magazine that goes out to everybody. I had asked her the same thing at that point if she thought it was still something that was useful to her. She believed it had run its course. I know you were still putting - and I'm using the wrong words here - you said there was a master plan or something that you guys were still working on. Steve Porter indicated we pretty much finalized that. We ran it by Dave for some edits and that sort of thing. It was the strategic plan. Selectman Routsis did recall, and again I could be wrong, the thought was once that strategic plan was done, then that's when that committee was going to be done because you had fulfilled what you thought your needs were.

Steve Porter stated just like the Recreation Committee has some oversight over some of activities and programs that are going on throughout the town, it wouldn't be bad to have whether it's part of the Recreation Committee and some seniors on that committee or some other committee. I think it still would have some value. That's just my opinion.

Selectman Morin also spoke with Lori and Dave and I got the same. My question was and you just asked it, do we make a senior representative on the Rec. Committee so they still have some representation? Selectman Coutu said anyone who wishes to apply to be on the Rec. Committee can do so. No one every applied. Selectman Morin understood but a senior affair representative so they have some input.

Selectman Routsis said the Rec. Committee did speak briefly about stuff that was going on at the senior center. So that is potentially the solution.

Selectman Coutu thought if we were to do that Mr. Chairman we would have to either increase the number of the board by two and ask that two senior representatives be on the board. I don't see a need for any of this. I just think that Lori is doing an outstanding job. It's well managed. It's well run. I hear accolades almost daily. I see the public every day and they come in and say oh the senior center. I love the senior center. I love Lori. What a great job she's doing. There's no need for oversight. That's Dave's responsibility and apparently it's working.

Chairman Luszey was in the same camp. Lori is the senior's representative. She's dedicated to that unlike baseball, lacrosse. There's no dedicated town employee on the Recreation Committee. She works for the Rec. Department. I think the seniors have more representative at the Recreation Department than other programs. I don't think we need to make a special seat if you will at that table. It's already there by default. Further conversation?

Selectman McGrath had a question. If there were another seat on the rec. commission for a senior citizen that goes to the senior center, they'd be able to raise issues maybe that Lori might not want to raise for whatever reason if they have concerns or issues. Personally, it doesn't matter to me if we add another seat to the rec. commission or not. It was just a thought. Lori works for the Recreation Committee so she's not about to raise complaints. Steve Malizia indicated she works for the town. She works in the Rec. Department through the Rec. Director. I just want to make sure. She doesn't work for the committee. Selectman McGrath said I'll stand corrected. She works for the town. She may be hesitant to raise an issue that might be more controversial among the membership. That's all. I don't have - again - it doesn't matter to me. Whatever the will of the Board is.

Selectman Routsis indicated we have a member of the Rec. Committee here. If the Board is okay and that person is okay, and also they sit at the senior - do they think that the dissolution per say of the Senior Affairs Committee...Selectman Coutu said we're still looking for a member of the Rec. Committee. He's the Director of Recreation. Selectman Routsis apologized. I used the wrong word. See what their thoughts are on both subjects.

Chairman Luszey said I'm looking at the Chairman of the Senior Affairs and I would look for his thoughts. It's up to us now to make that decision. We can keep going asking everybody what their thoughts are but it's really us and Mr. Porter to make that decision.

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Porter is there anything that you feel you require some more time to accomplish or finish a task that you've already started to undertake on that committee. Steve Porter indicated we pretty much finalized that plan and just had to do some edits to it. Selectman Coutu now the plan the product itself. Who is going to be the beneficiary of that? Mr. Porter said Dave. Selectman Coutu expected that he would share that with us I would hope. If the commission put all of that work into it, I'd like to see the end product myself Mr. Yates. I'm with the Chairman on this. We want your input. Do you honestly see that you've fulfilled your tasks? We're not trying to be harsh here. We've come to the realization that is there really a need for this committee? Like I said, Steve Porter indicated if you want a committee that has some ability to provide some advisory input. For instance we had a member that used to be a director of the Pelham Senior Center who provided some very good advice and then other members who belonged to other senior centers. They had some experiences, some background that they could lend some advice in regard to if something came up. Selectman Coutu asked if they were all members of the senior center. So they could go to Lori with the same advice. Mr. Porter said yes absolutely.

Motion by Selectman Coutu to disband the Senior Affairs Committee effective immediately with thanks and appreciation to Mr. Porter and the committee members that served past and present.

Selectman Coutu indicated I will make that motion with the proviso that I know it's a little work for Donna, I would like a personal letter signed by you on behalf of this Board thanking each and every one of them individually and a

personalized signature on each of those letter to the acting members of that committee. They put a lot of work in. I know they have. I've watched their meetings. I've been to their meetings. It's not a pleasant thing to dissolve a committee that's done an awful lot of work but I wish that we recognized that and I think it's a feel good thing. I truly appreciate all the work that you've done Steve. I know you graveled a lot and you had time constraints, you traveled a lot to get here for meetings. I appreciate everything you've done. I know the hardship sometimes it was for you to even make a meeting but you got there. Sometimes a few minutes late but you were there and you directed and you gave great direction. Some of those people were, God love them, very forthcoming with their ideas. I just want them to be recognized if there's no objection.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to disband the Senior Affairs Committee effective immediately with thanks and appreciation to Mr. Porter and the committee members that served past and present, carried 5-0.

- D. Acceptance of an OHRV Law Enforcement Grant in the amount of \$1,080

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia indicated this is a budgeted grant that we get every year basically for an OH off road vehicle enforcement in our Police Department gets these funds from Fish and Game and attempts to enforce the OHRV laws. I believe its \$45 an hour. It's about 24 hours of enforcement with no strings and no cost on our part. I recommend you accept the grant.

Selectman McGrath stated I fully support this. We have a problem in town.

Chairman Luszey asked on Blueberry Lane. Selectman McGrath said no River Road. Selectman Coutu stated River Road is a serious problem with OHRVs. It's been for a long time and they never go down there and enforce it. Behind the properties from the Tyngsboro line going up to BAE, there's a waterway. Those kids go up and down. They fly across the road. They're running right near her property, down by where my store was. They're just flying across. Chairman Luszey said they go up right and they hit the power lines and they come up right up by - we've got phone calls from a gentleman on Blueberry because they go right through is backyard. Selectman McGrath talked to Captain Avery and I talked to Chief Lavoie about it because I've witnessed it 2 or 3 times. The last time I was driving up River Road with a friend just by BAE. Just got to BAE and there were 2 kids on motorbikes. A third kid behind a car. They sandwiched the car in. I don't know who it was driving down the road some poor soul and the kids were so aggressive. One of them actually tried to kick the car as he went by. The kid on the 3-wheeler behind him was just as bad. It's atrocious what they're and they're so aggressive and they're in the road. They sandwich a car in and they go on either side of a car. Someone is going to get killed. It could be one of them or it could be somebody in the car - some elderly person or anyone that gets nerved up and scared of what they're doing. It's really a very serious problem and I've called it in whenever I see them going by. It really is truly dangerous.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Morin, to accept the OHRV Law Enforcement Grant in the amount of \$1,080 and to authorize Chairman Ted Luszey to sign said agreements relative to the same, carried 5-0.

- E. Police Dept. - Request to apply for a Community Oriented Grant through Sam's Club to be used for Fright Night in an amount between \$250 and \$2,500

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia noted this was not budgeted so therefore they need permission from the Board - they being the Police Department to apply for a community grant from Sam's Club and the intent of the grant will be used for Fright Night which is the October event that the police run for the youth of Hudson. What they're looking for is permission to apply for a grant that could be somewhere between \$250 and \$2,500. They want permission to apply.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Morin, to authorize the Police Department to apply for a Community Oriented Grant through Sam's Club in an amount ranging from \$250 to \$2,500, carried 5-0.

- F. Request to open Senior Center on Fridays starting in September

Selectman Coutu asked if the additional day was in the budget.

Selectman McGrath recalled talking about that before.

Chairman Luszey recognized Recreation Director Dave Yates and Senior Services Coordinator Lori Bowen.

Good evening. During the budget process, Dave Yates indicated there was discussion about possibly opening the senior center a 5th day. We said we would come back at a future date with a plan. We've also ran this through the Senior Affairs Committee. They were overwhelmingly in support of opening the center a fifth day. Before you, I put a

quick breakdown. Currently the senior center is open Monday through Thursday 8:45 to 3. We're proposing to add a fifth day of Friday from 8:45 to 1. Lori's hours are 29 1/2. This would put the senior center open at 29 hours per week. IT would allow for extra programming and a fifth day of Meals on Wheels for the people that depend on these meals daily. I think it's a very positive thing. Lori came up with a plan for some extended programs. She can discuss that with you if you'd like to know what her plan is for the Fridays.

Before you do that, Selectman Coutu asked what's going on Monday through Thursday. Not a lot of detail, specifically do you have a daily count of people who participate and go to the senior center Monday through Thursday - do you have a daily count - an average head count? Lori Bowen said yes Sir. Mondays we have an average of 60 to 80 people there. Tuesdays is around 100. Wednesdays we have about 140 people and Thursdays we have around 110 to 140 depending on the activities. Selectman Coutu asked do you still do Bingo on Thursday and you don't have the crowd you used to have. Ms. Bowen said it depends on the weather to be honest. This past Thursday we had 77 people there. Two weeks ago when it was pouring out, there were 66 people.

Selectman Coutu asked how many paid members do you have presently. Lori Bowen believed the number is up around 570. That's now. Selectman Coutu said you're down approximately 300. It appears to me based on the numbers that the membership is down. The people participating on a daily basis is down. Why would we need to add an additional day? Ms. Bowen thought we were just proposing it because we had said that we would at some point within three years open up on a fifth day and change the hours of the Coordinator so that it was available 5 days a week. Selectman Coutu said it's not necessarily that it's needed. It's just that when we mentioned it, let's try it. Ms. Bowen agreed. Selectman Coutu said I can't support that.

Chairman Luszey stated open it and they will come. Selectman Coutu noted they're not coming now. That's the point. The membership has gone down. Dave Yates didn't think the membership had gone down. I think our numbers before and we corrected that, the numbers were an ongoing numbers from the beginning and I approached Lori about it and said your numbers need to be on the fiscal year. I think last year we were just at 600 and something members. The numbers really aren't down. It was just the numbers that you were given before were the wrong data. Selectman Coutu said as best as I can recollect in my math class, if you had 600 last year or more and you're at 500 this year that means it's gone down and that's a significant percentage in my addition. Mr. Yates thought Lori said 570. So we're down 30 from last year. Just a proposal. I know the Senior Affairs Committee recommended it. Lori has some activities that she can spread out and use. It's not taking any more hours. It's totally up to this board. Chairman Luszey thought the only thing it does is it utilizes the building more. Mr. Yates indicated Meals on Wheels is a plus. For that fifth day, it's a plus. Selectman Coutu noted more wear and tear. More costs to maintain. Chairman Luszey said we can mothball the building. It's up to you. We can turn it into offices. I don't know.

Selectman Routsis asked do you foresee potentially getting additional members or more people because you're going to be open a fifth day. Lori Bowen said the goal is yes. What I would propose for Fridays is offering a second day of Bone Builders which is an Osteo Arthritis program. A fifth day for lunch and then a second day for chair yoga which pulls in about 23 people right now on average.

Selectman Routsis assumed that you potentially have snowbirds. Do you anticipate these being warmer weather hours and then having separate winter hours like a Monday through Thursday to accommodate the amount of people you have. Ms. Bowen said this is actually not a summer hours type of thing. My numbers actually go down in the summer. Even though snowbirds are back, we find that people take vacations, babysit grandchildren or great-grandchildren and we're talking about a population of people that have a lot of second homes. So spend time at their second home. I actually to present to this Board wouldn't start this until fall. I think my fall and spring are my busiest times as well as winter. I know it sounds silly because we do have a lot of snowbirds but I also get the people who are away in the summer back in in the winter that don't want to be home and trapped inside that need that companionship and something to do during the day.

Chairman Luszey noted the last couple of Deliberative Sessions we've been told the senior center is too small. Can you help reconcile that statement with membership - the volume of people down? Lori Bowen said the spaces in the senior center are what we would joke as revolving doors. We're constantly having multiple activities in different rooms. If you take the lounge for instance, there could be anywhere between 20 people in that space with furniture and pool table and activity size spaces. There could be 3 or 4 games going on at the card tables all at the same time. I think when people say the senior center is too small, the bathroom situation is tough. There's 84 people that show up for Bingo and I have two female toilets and one male toilet. I think that's in the kind of concept that the senior center might be too small but I think as far as activity wise the only ones that really feel squished sort to speak would be the exercise classes.

Chairman Luszey asked how many non-residents are amongst that current total. Lori Bowen stated I didn't bring that actually data but I can give or take. Chairman Luszey asked is it a 20 percent number. Ms. Bowen said yes a 20 percent number.

Selectman Routsis said this is just because you asked that question. Do other senior centers charge more for out of town members and what do we charge? Lori Bowen explained our fee per year is \$10 whether you live in town or out

of town. The average senior center has a charge anywhere between \$10 - \$15 up to \$50 depending on the location and whether it's a town entity or a private entity. There are senior centers in the area that do not accept out of towners at this point because they have grandfathered in say 600, and are very large centers, and only accept in-town residents at this point until someone no longer wants to be a member and then they would take you off a waiting list. I can give you the close ones. I believe that Nashua is up to \$50 a year for out of town residents and \$35 for in Nashua but they're private. So they're a little bit different. Pelham is also a town. They are very similar in size to us. Their space is a little bit larger because they put an addition on their building I believe 6 years ago at this point. They charge \$15 for out of town residents and nothing for in town. We had discussed it at the Senior Affairs Committee about what we wanted to do and they felt that as sort of an everybody belongs and everybody pays to be part of the programming because most of our activities are free that if everybody pays a \$10 fee, you sort of have pride in your center and use it as well as if you just showed up or you didn't have any monetary money invested in the center that you wouldn't necessarily treat it the same or use it the same way. Just to clarify, we renew every July so we run fiscally. So starting July 1st, it will be another \$10 to belong to the center. So that's when we'll see our numbers get a true to life factor on where our numbers are at.

Going to the fifth day, Chairman Luszey asked is there any substantial increase in utilities cost. Ms. Bowen said possibly - water, heat, electricity, air conditioning...Chairman Luszey said the AC is running anyways. Ms. Bowen said it does get warmer but yes. Chairman Luszey said that's why I'm saying substantially. Ms. Bowen didn't see it. Maybe electricity costs because the lights are off for 3 days now and they would be turned on for 5 hours in Friday. So that might be a little bit but I don't think it's a large impact.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Morin, to approve the opening of Fridays from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Senior Center effective September 5, 2017.

Selectman Coutu told the Chairman I will not be supporting the motion. I did not hear anything to convince me that there's a need to open a fifth day. If anything, it's the other way around. We could probably survive if we cut it back an hour a day. I'm not going to make that motion but I don't see a need at this time to go an additional day. It just doesn't make sense.

Chairman Luszey said the only thing I'd say to that Selectman Coutu is I would have agreed to that statement during the discussion when we were talking about building it and funding it. Since we've built it and we're now funding it to sit there, I think it is a matter of getting the maximum utilization out of that building. It's there for the seniors to use and if this Board would approve it, I would open those doors and let the seniors use it 7 days a week/24 hours a day without supervision. They're all over 21.

Selectman Coutu said I own an automobile. It doesn't mean I have to drive it 24 hours a day only when I need it. I don't drive my car around all day long because I own a car. I don't need to open a building because I have a building. I think that if the demand is there yes. I don't see the demand is there. The numbers are down. Chairman Luszey said the numbers may be down but part of the argument that we had way back when is some people are available to use it on Mondays, some on Wednesdays, some on Fridays, some on Saturdays. We randomly chose the Monday through Thursday based on the availability of someone to open and close the center. I don't see a downside on this one yet.

Selectman McGrath asked do we have staff to work there on Friday. I know Lori works there Monday through Thursday now. Dave Yates said she will be Monday through Friday. Selectman McGrath added without an increase in hours.

Vote: motion carried 4-1. Selectman Coutu in opposition.

G. Acceptance of Letter of Resignation from Chrissy Peterson, Office Assistant at Recreation Department

Chairman Luszey recognized Recreation Director Dave Yates.

Dave Yates acknowledged I did give you a copy of Chrissy's resignation letter. She's been with us for 4 years. This is a major loss. She's terrific. She's very dedicated, hard worker. She puts a lot of hours in over and above the 8 to 4. It's going to be a big loss to the department but she felt that she couldn't put the commitment in being a full time employee. She would love to be part time but she couldn't put the commitment of full time due to her family schedule. I'm here tonight to seek the Board's approval to post for a replacement.

Chairman Luszey indicated we'll take them separately.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to accept Chrissy Peterson's letter of resignation as the full-time Office Assistant at the Recreation Department effective July 8, 2017 with the Board's thanks and gratitude.

Selectman McGrath noted you just said that she'd be willing to work part time but not full time. So is that something that she'd be willing to do is to continue in a part time capacity? Dave Yates said she would. Chairman Luszey indicated in her letter it was 8 hours a week. Mr. Yates said she would be and that's something I was going to bring up in nonpublic later is to talk about job sharing. I don't know if that's something you want to talk about in nonpublic.

Chairman Luszey said let's keep it to the first motion because we are going to talk about the second piece.

Vote: motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Luszey said if the Board is okay, I would actually like to table the motion to post this particular position until after we have a conversation about the needs of the Highway Department. We have moved responsibilities and duties from the Recreation Department over to Highway. There in our packet is a request for a person tonight and I am looking at this as a possible headcount use to fill that role. I think we need to have that full conversation.

Selectman McGrath asked in nonpublic. Chairman Luszey said that conversation would be no but there are some other stuff that would be nonpublic. So that will come up later. Mr. Yates asked so we'll discuss that later. Chairman Luszey said we'll discuss that later yes. Mr. Yates asked will I have any input. Chairman Luszey said you may or may not depending on the outcome of the Board. We're looking at how to put the right people in the right places at the right time. That's the conversation we're going to have as a board. We've got a personnel issue that's coming up. We don't have an assigned slot for it right now and we're going to have that conversation. Based on that conversation...Dave Yates asked are you saying this position would completely go away within the Recreation Department? Chairman Luszey indicated it's a possibility. Mr. Yates asked who will perform these duties. Chairman Luszey said we'll talk about that. Again, let us have the conversation.

H. Discussion relative to the creation of a Park and Recreation Division under Highway Department and possibly hiring two new positions (Supervisor and Laborer)

Chairman Luszey recognized Road Agent Kevin Burns to talk about the Park and Recreation Division that we've been talking about and talked about putting him in charge of something that really doesn't exist. Mr. Burns has expressed a number of times to us about issues with managing his resources to get everything that we've asked him to do done. We continue to place things upon him. I personally requested Mr. Burns put forward a requisition to hire a person to support the rec. portion of what he's doing whether it's Benson's, Merrill Park, Jette Field, and all that. I believe it's time for this Board to start making the hard choices do we want Mr. Burns to truly do this? Are we going to give him the resources needed to do it or are we going to tell Mr. Burns where to prioritize his resources that he has. An example might be don't mow the parks every 5 days, mow them every 8 days, or 10 days, or something like that to allow him to get back to some of the tasks that he needs to do on the other side. Through the conversation I had with him, the roadside brush cutting he's behind on because of the work that he was doing at Benson's and other things. That's the conversation I believe we need to have. I'll open it up to the Board for that conversation if anybody has it. Otherwise, I'll make a motion to that.

According to the agenda, Selectman McGrath noted it's for two positions not one - Supervisor and laborer. Chairman Luszey said that was absolutely true. That's something that we need to talk about on where we're at and what's needed. Selectman McGrath said my question is is that just to address the addition of Benson Park to his duties so that he can adequately take care of it and address whatever needs to be done within that park. If so, that's something that again the voters weren't asked for that. They were asked for whether or not they wanted to charge a fee. I know sitting here I don't do it but I know that it's been done where Kevin is asked to go out and take care of something within Benson Park without addressing whether or not it's going to interfere with other projects that he's committed to and has staffing to take care of. I've got to say Benson Park as nice as it is, as everybody loves it, I get it but it's become a behemoth for this town because it's endless. It doesn't stop. We talked to Kevin a couple of weeks ago about what he needed. He's reduced his staff over time, hasn't come back for additional staff, and yet his duties keep increasing. I don't have a problem at all with having additional staff for the Highway Department if that's what's needed. I guess I'd like to have a better understanding of what it's going to end up costing the voters to have a supervisory position and a laborer. Steve Malizia stated approximately \$176,000 with benefits if you add two people.

Selectman Routsis asked if we are calling this a "Park and Recreation Division" does that mean you take over everything Rec. does and what happens to our Rec. Department? Chairman Luszey said no. That's not the way it's been framed. It's always been framed in terms of the infrastructure of parks and recreational buildings. I would use the term that recreation becomes a tenant of the buildings that they use and this gentleman here takes care of those physical assets because they're not being taken care of very well today. Selectman Routsis indicated it's a parks and buildings division. Chairman Luszey said sure but it's not the recreational programming aspect of it.

Selectman Morin said first of all again I said it earlier. I would only like to see one person knowing the information that I received and at this point, I don't feel it needs to be a supervisor because he has Jay who can go in the park and make sure things are going down and getting taken care of. There are other things too that we can do to save his true time. Again it's not to tell Kevin how to run it but there are other options. First of all, I don't understand why he's taking care of scheduling in the park? Chairman Luszey indicated because we gave that to him. Selectman Morin understood we did but why. That's not a highway...Chairman Luszey said we can have that discussion in nonpublic.

Selectman Morin stated the next thing - and just throwing it out there - when we talked to Nashua. I keep going back to Nashua but you know what it's a little different than we do over here. We've got some ideas. They use a spray that's a grass growth inhibitor which gives them two weeks versus one week every week doing week whacking and things

like that. They spray it along the fences and it saves some manpower hours that way. Just things that we didn't look at that maybe we should be looking at. The guy is busy. Absolutely. The park looks great but at this point, we have some creative ways that we can get the one person definitely agree with that but I think anything after that needs to go to the voters.

Selectman Coutu said we're making a lot of assumptions here. Do we mow the parks every single week? I know the ballfields we do. Kevin Burns said in the growing season yes we do. Selectman Coutu asked how many people is employed in the Nashua Parks Division. Just that division alone? Mr. Burns said their Parks Division is bigger than my entire department. I know they have 19 full time seasonal employees. Selectman Coutu asked do you get the perception that they have more than one person that maintains Greeley Park. Mr. Burns said I do yes. Selectman Coutu noted there is no way one person maintains Greeley Park - impossible. Selectman Morin said I'm tell you talk to...Selectman Coutu said that's what they told you. Selectman Morin said I would hope he was telling me the truth. Again, let's look at it. Other than all the extra duties of digging holes and laying pipe, what are they doing in there? They're cutting grass. They're maintaining...what do you exactly do in the park? Selectman Coutu noted prune trees. Kevin Burns said whatever season it is. We have to do spring cleanup. Then we do mowing and do fall cleanup. In the winter very little. I probably spend on routine maintenance probably 40 to 44 hours a week man hour wise. Selectman Morin said that would be one person a week.

Kevin Burns said the Highway Department has not added people. I'm not saying we have to add them tonight. I understand how the whole system works. Since I've taken over, we've never added anyone. We've reduced. The Town Administrator - the head count back to 1990 - I went back a little further and found even a higher headcount. If you think back to when I took over almost 20 years ago, I've added no people. I've actually reduced people but the town has grown dramatically. Twenty years ago how many traffic lights did we have? Probably half of what we have now. Number of roads that we have now that we didn't have 20 years ago. The work that we do now that we didn't do 20 years ago besides the fact that Benson's and we didn't own a water company back then, road paving was basically you get a contractor to come in and they'd shim the roads and they'd fall apart two years later. We rebuild all the roads now and we do the majority of the labor ourselves to save money. Like I've said to the Budget Committee before, I take that \$800,000 and I just buy black with it. We do all the prep work. We have it ready for them to just come out and lay down the mix but then we have all the finish work after. We have to do the shoulders, tie in all the driveways, do everyone's lawn. We do much more work. We do better work and I'm at a point where I've probably been saying it for five years now to the Board that I cannot take on any more. I am at the breaking point and Benson's has been a huge drag on my resources. The volunteers did a great job. The Highway Department built Benson's. If you wanted to call Benson's a house, we did the foundation. We did the framing and the Benson volunteers came in and did the carpeting, the curtains, and the wallpaper. We physically have built that park and it's been a huge drain.

Kevin Burns stated the reason I've been leaning towards two people is before Benson's Park my lawn crew was basically two people every day and they were able to keep up with all the buildings, cemeteries, and parks. Since Benson's, I've had to take four people on my lawn crews daily. So that's two more people that I've taken off streets to strictly working in parks. If I could eventually at some point get the two people back, then I have the same amount of people at least working on the streets what I used to have even though I think we probably should have more working on the streets than we do. At least that would get me back to where I was pre-Benson's.

Chairman Luszey said the other thing too is we've added green space. Like coming across the Sagamore. We added I don't know how big a space that is but we asked Kevin to go out there and clean that up. Selectman Coutu noted he added it. Chairman Luszey said we made the request. Selectman Coutu said it's beautiful.

Selectman Routsis stated I could be wrong but I thought at our last meeting we wanted a plan of some sort to be together to let us know what this new potential division would be, what it would entail, what they would take care of, and even part of our conversations earlier were we don't have plans. We don't know what it's going to be. We get a general scope of what it's going to be but we're asking to potentially add new people and I am not against adding people. You absolutely need the help but we're asking to add people under a potential new division and not really knowing what the scope of that division is.

Selectman Coutu explained Mr. Burns and I have had extensive discussions. As a matter of fact I've been after Kevin for two years to request a full time and a part time person because I thought it was time that we addressed the fact that we have the parks have grown, we're going to be building a new field. That's going to become his responsibility and potentially another one which should handle all of the needs of the town for fields for quite a few years. Again another responsibility. I think the way we haven't had this discussion but in my conversations with Mr. Burns, and feel free to correct me anytime Kevin, it was his intent to bring on a foreman for what would be known as the "Parks Division". That would lay the groundwork. We know we need to have a working foreman. He would set the priorities of the fields, and the parks, and the work that needs to be done and he would have an additional part time laborer that would assist him so that they can get around and get the work done. He doesn't want just a bull out there pushing around lawnmowers and picking up leaves and branches and what not. He wants someone with some intellect and foresight as to how this division will grow if it needs to grow or how to keep it at a minimum and be able to maintain it with just 1 ½ people. I've maintained - and I think Kevin you'll attest to it - for three years that you need an additional person and a half and you

said I want to put it off. You're frugal. You just want to put it off, put it off, and now you are bursting at the seams. I think you felt compelled to come in and say we've got to do it. We've got to get this done.

Selectman Coutu noted there is a plan. The plan is to hire what we factually need is we need an additional body - perhaps a body and a half and then that person will report directly to either Kevin or whatever his immediate subordinate that he would have them report to and they will be the foundation of the parks labor division. He can't get it going because he doesn't have enough bodies to do it so until he gets a working foreman in - like I said with some amount of intellect to ascertain the needs of the parks in our community - you don't need a plan to add a division to your Road Agent's roster. You don't really need a plan. The plan is there's a lot of work to be done. We need a body.

Selectman Routsis said absolutely and I don't disagree. That was what we ended our meeting with the last time.

Selectman Coutu stated this is an active division. It's well run. It's a run oiled, fine-tuned machine so it doesn't need a plan but he definitely needs at least one body. If we address nothing else, we need to address that immediately.

Selectman Morin noted here's what I'm seeing. I don't see its middle of June already. The foreman I don't see that as we need it this year. I see him as getting one guy. He just said he spends 40 man hours a week. If you have somebody in there 40 a week, that takes care of the crew that comes in there to put them out to the places he doesn't have to worry about it anymore. If it's so important that we have somebody that knows what's going on, take one of his existing crew that does it now and put them in there for this year. They already know how it runs, what needs to be done, things of that nature. Take the new hire and put him out on the street. It cures the problem for this year. You have somebody that's experienced who knows how the park runs. We could put it on a warrant article good to go forward to move forward with the park rec. commission and the foreman. It's the middle of June now. By the time he does the hiring process...

Chairman Luszey explained the execution of it, I would look for Mr. Burns to do. The skill level - again I'm not going to debate the skill level of all of his current people but I know one of the skills is - and you call it intellect but it's the ability to manage the scheduling of all the parks, the groups that want to come in, and things like that. You have to factor that in. Is it a foreman? I'm not going to use those words but there's a job description that I believe we have that allows Mr. Burns to go out and hire that set of skills and that same person to have the lawn mowing set of skills.

Selectman Morin said I agree with you but again, and we're going to talk about it later, I don't feel he should be doing that. We can talk about that later - the scheduling. Chairman Luszey said this Board has already done did that. Selectman Morin understood but things change. We talked about that many times tonight. Things change. Chairman Luszey said if we're going to have that conversation, then we'll dismiss Mr. Burns and have the conversation about where this work belongs. That's what you're stating. Selectman Morin asked where do you think scheduling should be. Mr. Burns asked what do you mean by scheduling. Selectman Morin stated you schedule all the people coming in to the parks and things to that nature. Do you feel that's your position? Mr. Burns now understood. You mean functions and groups. I was able to get a handle on a situation that was in my opinion I thought was out of control. Selectman Morin said that didn't answer my question. Mr. Burns agreed. I thought you were going to call me on that.

Chairman Luszey said we're going down a rat hole.

Selectman Morin asked to move on. Kevin Burns said if I came out of here with a laborer and an understanding that I'll be bringing forward another position in the budget for discussion at that point in time, I'd have time to have a better presentation. I'd be happy as a clam because I haven't had a person ever. This person I would have to say just to be cost effective, I could not say okay I'm going to hire this one truck driver/laborer and have him in Benson's because then I would have to buy duplicate equipment to equip two groups going in two different directions. I have the equipment to keep four guys going as a team now but at least if I had that one additional truck driver/laborer, now I can at least get one more person back working on the streets and I don't need to buy an extra truck. Don't need to buy a trailer. I don't have to buy lawn mowers.

Selectman Coutu asked to make one point and I want to make it very clear. I'd like to make sure that the Town Administrator, Kevin, whoever it is stay on top of this. We've talked about this as well. I don't want Mr. Burns to inherit a full time person that's going to be - I want him to inherit a full time person but I don't want it to be a person that when they get to Benson Park, Benson Park people are going to dictate what he or she does in that park. That would be entirely what he says and that interference and it has been interference has been problematic and we need to bring that to an end. We've had that discussion Dave.

Selectman Morin said that's the plan on having everybody in here to discuss roles and responsibilities.

Selectman Coutu noted we may not necessarily be creating a new head count.

Chairman Luszey indicated that would be my position.

Selectman Coutu asked where do we want to go with this. I'm in favor of letting him have at least for the time being a laborer, doing an interview, advertising. We can actually ask him to post it for the time being. We can make the final decision after our meeting nonpublic.

Selectman McGrath supported at least adding one person to Kevin's staff. I think that he needs it. He doesn't come in very often seeking help. I think that when he does, we need to listen to him. I'm not in favor of adding a second person until we get the voters authorization on that. It's going to be dedicated for Benson Park. Again I'll say that we need and the voters need to understand what we've spent to date and what we're going to be spending going forward and what's going to be requested of them.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Morin, to all Kevin Burns to post for the position of truck driver/laborer, carried 5-0.

- I. Request to apply for the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance Grant - awarding the Saving Those Who Save Others Workshop

Chairman Luszey recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Chief Buxton noted I will try to be brief. This request actually costs you no money. Certainly over the last 20 years of being in the fire service, we've seen the issue of behavioral health come up several times. Since 2000 to 2013, they've actually tracked 360 suicides within our profession and that number continues to increase. NFPA has adopted a new standard NFPA 1500 which is in regards to behavioral health and wellness. We're basically asking to basically apply for this grant to sponsor a workshop for our employees. This is a health and wellness item that I believe there's no financial obligation on our part. It is basically for the ability to bring the program in free of charge to us.

Selectman McGrath was in full support of this. I'll just mention I read something today I believe it's the VA that they've discovered an injection for PTSD for soldiers and they think it's going to prevent that from continuing. Chief Buxton said it's great news. Selectman McGrath commented it is great news if it works.

Selectman Coutu asked who would be the beneficiaries of the workshop. You certainly can't shut down the fire department and have them all come in. Chief Buxton said we would sponsor the program for four different groups. So they would actually get it while they're working as a regular training session as we do now. If we got an emergency call, they would shut the training down and move on. That's the way the grant would work. We deliver training like this routinely day in and day out. If we have a training session going on at Central and we have an emergency response, they go on the emergency response and they come back and finish up the training afterwards.

Selectman Coutu asked there's a professional organization that provides the workshop. Chief Buxton said yes. Selectman Coutu said they would come in here and be in a middle of a workshop and be 15 minutes into it and they would shut it down and that's the end of that workshop. Chief Buxton noted we have routinely done that and we bring in professionals all the time whether it's somebody to do something regarding a cadaver exercise. Routinely we've done this over the years so we...Selectman Coutu's point is they start a workshop, 15 minutes into it they shut it down because there's an emergency and we need the manpower out there. Do they come back? Chief Buxton said yes. They either restart it or they make up the session on another scheduled date. Selectman Coutu didn't think it was 4 set dates you make it or lose it. Okay. I support it as well.

Just to answer Selectman Coutu's and Chief, Selectman Morin said what we used to do also if guys were on covering the shifts, they would take the calls first so everybody that didn't have the class could stay.

Just to emphasize, Selectman McGrath said this is at no cost to the taxpayers. That's very beneficial.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to authorize the Fire Chief to apply for the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance Grant for Fire Department training which would award the department with the Saving Those Who Save Others Workshop, carried 5-0.

- J. Request to apply for the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Grant Program in the amount of \$4,800 to purchase equipment used in response to active shooter events

Chairman Luszey recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Chief Buxton explained the second grant that we're looking to apply for is actually through Firehouse Subs. The City of Nashua they sponsor a community outreach program and offer up safety equipment and programs to fire departments. The City of Nashua was awarded some ventilation saws and extrication equipment last year. Their next deployment of money is coming up in September. We're looking to finish our EMS in the Warm Zone Program which has a cost of \$4,800. This, again, is 100 percent funded on our part. Our policy is 100 percent written now and we're

actually working through the training piece with the Police Department and how that deployment is going to work. This program is coming to the end. This will conclude that program.

Question. Selectman McGrath asked what is the warm zone. Chief Buxton stated the warm zone would be basically the Police Department would go in and clear an area to make sure there's no actual shooters in there but that would be the active building. So there would be no shooters within that area. We don't carry weapons. We basically wear body armor just in case somebody was to ambush and come in. They quickly remove injured parties out of that area.

For those who want to know whether or not Hudson is in need of this, Selectman Coutu asked how many times would you say in a 3 month period you get called out for stagings for the Police Department. Chief Buxton said we routinely get called out for staging. Selectman Coutu explained for people who don't know what "staging" means, it means that the police on a call and there's the potential for something serious to happen and the Fire Department is called in to stage and be prepared for any medical emergency that might occur as a result of an incident that might occur on that property.

Just to add another tidbit. Selectman McGrath wasn't aware previous until a couple of months ago that firefighters were in danger other than being in a fire - actually fighting a fire and going into a building until I either heard a news report or read it where firefighters were actually being shot at. I think in some cases, there were a couple of injuries for that or killing. Chief Buxton noted the City of Chelsea actually had an incident within the last 30 days where they actually were being shot at upon the arrival at a structure fire. There has been incidents across the country where they've actually been shot. Selectman McGrath said it was astounding to me because it would never have occurred to me. I understand the danger of going into a burning building but it never occurred to me that somebody would actually shoot at a firefighter that was going to save them. Selectman Coutu noted firefighters have been ambushed. Selectman McGrath just found that out. Maybe I've been living in a cave for a long time but it never occurred to me until I heard or read that news report. It was astounding. I'm in favor of this.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Morin, to authorize the Fire Chief to apply for the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Grant Program which would grant up to \$4,800 for the purchase of equipment used in response to active shooter events, carried 5-0.

K. Revenues and Expenditures

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia explained we're 11 months though the year so we only have this month to go. That's 92 percent expended. I don't see any obvious trouble areas. We just got the last earned time buyout so that has not been reflected into here. In other words, twice a year employees can buy out earned time. So far we've absorbed it. It appears we'll be able to absorb it overall. It might cause some budgets to go over but bottom line we should be okay. Obviously there's no troubles in Legal. There's no trouble in Town Poor. We are doing a few little projects around town such as doors and a few other little small odds and ends that we can take care of. Unfortunately we can't spend all the extra auto revenue because that's done really well this year. But what that will do is replenish our surplus. As you recall, we took surplus from the fire project so this will now allow us to replenish that and get our ratio back up probably to closer to 6 percent as opposed to the 4 ½ or 5. Overall, I think the year has been pretty favorable to us. Again we expect to come in favorable.

We will have encumbrances at the next meeting. As you recall, Mr. Malizia stated when we have commitments that we make, we were doing encumbrances at the last meeting with the Finance Director. If there's anything else that we learn, we will roughly have it at that meeting.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman McGrath - I have nothing to add tonight.

Selectman Morin - We had one issue at Benson's. There were reports of people removing turtles out of the park. I talked to Captain Avery and they're doing direct patrols in the park to make sure that's not happening any further. Jana is on it.

Selectman Routsis - I just want to thank everyone that came out to the spaghetti dinner. Other than that, stay hydrated, stay cool, and enjoy the weekend. It's supposed to be beautiful.

Selectman Coutu - I'm good, thank you.

Selectman Luszey - I just have a couple items. Actually it's all relative to the new fire station. The geological study is complete. The good news according to the Chief is we have no ledge, no hazmat, and no asbestos. The RFP goes

out at the end of the week and we should be awarding a bid toward the end of July at our meeting with an expectation we start construction close to the September/August timeframe.

Selectman Morin asked if there was anything on the open house yet. I just got some stuff I have to set up. Chief Buxton explained Selectman Morin is speaking about is we had stated once the building was 100 percent next door we would have a quick ribbon cutting before one of your meetings. We're actually drafting a plan to put together for July 11th is a Tuesday night for your meeting and that would be on your agenda the next month - the 27th - to have approval to have that that night. We would work with you in regards to those declarations and stuff. That will also be the celebration for our 125th anniversary. So the re-dedication of the station and stuff all in that evening with one quick ceremony.

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 (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Chairman Luszey entered Nonpublic Session at 9:41 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 11:20 p.m.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Morin, to hire Taylor Kirk, Civil Engineering student, for the position of Engineering Intern with a start date of July 3, 2017 working 40 hours per week at a rate of \$12.000 per hour using Account #4311-5585-103, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to hire Neal Beauregard as an Equipment Operator in the Highway Department at the rate of \$24.61 per hour (Grade XII, Step 4) effective June 18, 2017, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to hire Sarah Poole and Stephen Sanger as Counselor I for the 2017 Summer Program at a rate of \$10.00 per hour effective June 14, 2017, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to hire Alex Tucci and Grant Hodgkins as Substitute Counselors/Robinson Pond Attendants for the 2017 Summer Program at a rate of \$10.00 per hour effective June 14, 2017, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to retain Chrissy Peterson as a temporary part-time Office Assistant in the Recreation Department for up to two days a week until September 12, 2017, carried 4-1. Selectman Coutu in opposition.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to accept the resignation of Firefighter Andrew Gardner from the Hudson Fire Department effective June 18, 2017, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to allow the Fire Chief to buy out 230 hours of vacation time at his current rate of pay, carried 5-0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 11:27 p.m. by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Coutu, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

Thaddeus Luszey, Chairman

Marilyn E. McGrath, Vice-Chairman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Angela Routsis, Selectman

David S. Morin, Selectman