

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the April 10, 2018 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Coutu the meeting of April 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman Martin.
3. ATTENDANCE  
Board of Selectmen: Roger Coutu, Angela Routsis, David Morin, Normand Martin  
Absent: Marilyn McGrath  
Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Fire Chief Rob Buxton; Police Chief Jason Lavoie; Sergeant Matt Keller; Town Engineer Elvis Dhima
4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Coutu asked does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time. Seeing none.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

- A. Interviews

- 1) Benson Park Committee - (4 vacancies - 2 member terms to expire 4/30/2021; 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/20; 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/2021)

Nancie Caron - 11 Berkeley Drive, Hudson, NH.

Chairman Coutu stated for those of you who don't know Nancie, Nancie was instrumental in serving for us as a volunteer when we first opened up the senior center. Nancy served as an appointee of this board to formulate the advisory committee for the senior center. She served well and then when the task was done, we disbanded the board. Apparently she's renewed an interest in wanting to continue serving the town in the capacity and she has applied for the Benson Committee. Nancie why don't you tell this Board the reason why you applied for the Benson Park Committee.

Nancie Caron stated my main reason is to help expand some of the services at Benson's and also to give Lori an extra hand because I see how hard this girl works and I know she could use more people on board there. I'd like to assist her in raising different events that she puts on. Presently I'm a volunteer at the Huntington in Nashua. That's a senior assisted living and I'd like to bring some of their ideas here to Hudson to help expand the Benson area. I'm a retired banker. So my time I'm available for you whenever you want me. Again my main objective is to help Lori there at Benson. She needs the help a lot.

Chairman Coutu asked to clear the air. Lori Bowen is the Director of the Senior Center and not Benson Park. They're two separate and distinct organizations. Ms. Caron indicated to assist in any way that I can in that area.

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Nancie Caron as an alternate to the Benson Park Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.*

John Leone (incumbent member)

Chairman Coutu noted that the next nominee is an incumbent. He's not present and not necessary. John Leone is well known to the Benson Park Committee. He's done an inordinate amount of work at Benson Park and he's asking to be reappointed. Does everybody here know Mr. Leone?

Selectman Morin agreed with everything you just said. Not only has he taken on the committee, he's also the President of the Friends of Benson. His dedication to the park is in many aspects.

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint John Leone as a member to the Benson Park Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.*

John Madden (incumbent alternate requesting to be a member)

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint John Madden as a member to the Benson Park Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.*

- 2) Building Board of Appeals - (3 vacancies - 1 member term to expire 4/30/20; 2 member terms to expire 4/30/21)

Jeffrey Emanuelson (incumbent member)

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Jeffrey Emanuelson as a member to the Building Board of Appeals with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.*

- 3) Cable Utility Committee - (2 vacancies - 2 member terms to expire 4/30/21)

Michael O'Keefe (incumbent member) Chairman Coutu noted the incumbent is the present Chairman - Mike O'Keefe. I think he's known to all of us. He serves us honorably and well and puts in many, many hours. We see him at meetings but he's available and pretty much has hands on almost every single day. We have a lot of committees like that where people serve and they have hands on and they're to be commended.

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Michael O'Keefe as a member to the Cable Utility Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.*

Peter Lanzillo (incumbent member) Chairman Coutu said you might have seen him on television. He does a regular program. Usually on racing, Peter Lanzillo is a big fan of racing and he's a big fan of some of our local races and he makes sure to interview them on camera as well as having other programs that are related to our community. He's done an outstanding job at the cable television and he's going to continue directing and managing a lot of his own programming.

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Peter Lanzillo as a member to the Cable Utility Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.*

- 4) Municipal Utility Committee - (2 vacancies - 2 member terms to expire 4/30/2021)

James Lavacchia (incumbent member) Selectman Morin indicated he's been on a very short time and he wants to move up to the full position. This gentleman has a long experience dealing with public utilities and things to that nature. He's actually been a great asset to the committee and I would like to make a motion.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint James Lavacchia as a member to the Municipal Utility Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.

5) Recreation Committee - (3 vacancies, 3 member terms to expire 4/30/2021)

Sean O'Neil (incumbent member) Chairman Coutu stated I know Sean and Selectman Routsis you served on the Recreation Committee. How's he doing? Better than okay I hope.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Sean O'Neil as a member to the Recreation Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.

Susan LaRoche (incumbent member) Chairman Coutu said she's a good friend her and her husband. She has been an outstanding member of the Recreation Committee and has served us well. For the ten years that I've been here, she's been serving all of that plus. I love seeing long-term members.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Susan LaRoche as a member to the Recreation Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.

6) Sustainability Committee - (7 vacancies - 2 member terms to expire 4/30/2019; 3 member terms to expire 4/30/2021; 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/20; 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/2021)

Linda Kipnes (incumbent member) Chairman Coutu noted she's well known to all of us. Linda has served for several years - she had the Energy Committee and has done an outstanding job. She won an award I think it was a national award for volunteerism. A lot of it relates back to her work and what she does for the environment and what she's done for the Town of Hudson. I know she's got some more plans she's going to want to bring forward about our use of electricity and how we can conserve electricity greater than what we're doing now and we can save even more money. I like hearing that.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Linda Kipnes as a member to the Sustainability Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.

Richard Kahn 147 Robinson Road, Hudson. Chairman Coutu asked Mr. Kahn to tell the members of the Board and our general audience why you've applied to serve on the Sustainability Committee. Richard Kahn stated in the beginning the earth was without form and void. Actually in my beginning I've been recycling ever since I was a young child. I guess some of that early upbringing rubbed off on me and I'm a big fan of not just recycling but repurposing things and making stuff out of stuff. I've been giving presentations to the various garden clubs, horticultural societies throughout the State. I've been speaking to rotary clubs. One of the things I've been talking to these groups, I've been giving workshops in how to make automatic plant watering systems out of drink containers and it costs next to nothing to do it. It's creating something useful out of something that would normally be trash and when it breaks you can recycle it anyway. That could be I don't know how many hours you have but...Chairman Coutu said we're going to keep the whole meeting under an hour. Mr. Kahn said my point is I make all kinds of stuff out of stuff and I would love the opportunity well like it says on the mission statement, "to promote energy saving practices and recycling throughout the town by promoting energy conservation and efficiency..." so on and so for. I believe I could do that in many ways. I would have fun doing it if that's allowed. I would love the opportunity.

Chairman Coutu congratulated Mr. Kahn on receiving your government patent on one of your inventions on the sifter products. Congratulations. Anybody have any questions of Mr. Kahn? My most memorable memory of Mr. Kahn was a candidate's night and he was running for Selectman. When he arrived at the podium he picked up a briefcase and put it on the podium and I jumped underneath my chair. I didn't know what he was going to do. Richard has volunteered. You've done some volunteering at Benson Park

in the past. You've always been available to people for advice and guidance on sustaining our earth and our environment and I look forward to your serving on this committee and lend a new voice that I think would be helpful. With that, are there any other questions or comments from the Board? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion.

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Richard Kahn as a member to the Sustainability Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2021, carried 4-0.*

- 7) Zoning Board of Adjustment - (5 vacancies - 1 member term to expire 12/31/18; 1 member term to expire 12/31/2020; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/19; 2 alternate terms to expire 12/31/20)

Chairman Coutu said it was a great pleasure for me to introduce the next person and I want thank you Selectman Martin if in fact - well I heard that you were - you recruited him to come back to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Gerald Dearborn - 136 Highland Street - better known as "Gary". Chairman Coutu asked Gary you served how many years on Zoning. Mr. Dearborn said six years on the Board of Adjustment. A short term on the Board of Assessors way back when Dick Ethier was here. I served on Trustee of Trust Funds under Joe for a short period of time. Six years on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Chairman Coutu indicated you're a seasoned member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Mr. Dearborn said yes under Mr. Martin's leadership. Chairman Coutu asked were you his clerk as well. Mr. Dearborn stated yes oh yes on many occasions.

Selectman Martin stated where can I get a member and I reached out in an e-mail to him. We e-mailed back and forth two times and I had him hook, line, and sinker. He'll be a good asset for this town. He always has been and always will be.

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Gerald Dearborn as a member to the Zoning Board of Adjustment with a term to expire 12/31/2020, carried 4-0.*

## 6. CONSENT ITEMS

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

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to approve consent items A, B, C, D, E and F as noted or appropriate, carried 4-0.*

### A. Assessing Items

- 1) Current Use - Map 252, Lot 41 - 53 Pine Road, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) Charitable Exemption - Map 237, Lot 57 - 30 Richman Drive, w/recommendation to deny
- 3) 2017 Abatement - Map 191, Lot 65 - 4 Alpha Street, w/recommendation to approve
- 4) Elderly Exemptions - Map 150, Lot 015 - 28 Barretts Hill Road; Map 177, Lot 005, Sub 092 - 30A Shadowbrook Drive; Map 158, Lot 031 - 155 Highland Street; Map 178, Lot 021 - 79 Speare Road; Map 168, Lot 002, Sub 007 - 26 Krystal Drive; Map 175, Lot 034, Sub 026 - 2 Pond View Drive; Map 124, Lot 075 - 16 Boulder Drive; Map 156, Lot 063, Sub 107 - 803 Elmwood Drive; Map 156, Lot 006, Sub 051 - 9A Taunton Lane, w/recommendation to grant
- 5) Veterans Tax Credit - Map 134, Lot 020 - 9 Woodcrest Drive; Map 139, Lot 002, Sub 001 - 6 Rayes Drive; Map 149, Lot 001, Sub 051 - 24 Glasgow Circle; Map 200, Lot 044 - 78 Bush Hill Road, w/recommendation to grant
- 6) Surviving Spouse Tax Credit - Map 246, Lot 052 - 9 Muldoon Drive, w/recommendation to grant

- 7) All Veterans Tax Credit - Map 222, Lot 054 - 6 Ridgecrest Drive; Map 190, Lot 174 - 3 Pinedale Avenue; Map 198, Lot 078 - 16 Lorraine Street; Map 197, Lot 025 - 21 Sunrise Drive, w/recommendation to grant
- 8) Residence in Industrial/Commercial Zone Tax Assessment - Map 198, Lot 17 - 89 Lowell Road; Map 198, Lot 26 - 70 Lowell Road; Map 198, Lot 148 - 104 Lowell Road; Map 204, Lot 1 - 155 Lowell Road; Map 217, Lot 6 - 201 Lowell Road; Map 234, Lot 42 - 2 Davenport Road, w/recommendation to grant

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Request to Solicit Funds - American Legion, Post 247 - Tyngsboro, MA
- 2) Raffle Permit - Friends of Benson Park
- 3) Raffle Permit - Friends of Benson Park

D. Donations - None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the March 27, 2018 meeting

F. Calendar

- |       |      |   |
|-------|------|---|
| 04/11 | 7:00 | Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room               |
| 04/12 | 3:00 | Trustees of the Trust Fund - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 04/17 | 7:00 | Municipal Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room            |
| 04/18 | 7:00 | Planning Brd Workshop - Buxton CD Meeting Room      |
| 04/19 | 7:00 | Benson Park Cte - HCTV Meeting Room                 |
| 04/23 | 7:00 | Sustainability Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room         |
| 04/24 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room               |
| 04/25 | 7:00 | Benson Park Landscape Cte - BOS Meeting Room        |
| 04/25 | 7:00 | Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room               |
| 04/26 | 7:30 | Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room   |

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on March 27, 2018:

- 1) *Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to create a transition plan with Land Use Director George Theborge and change his title to Interim Town Planner at a rate of pay at the top step for Town Planner (Step 7, \$92,533) with his last day being no later than June 30, 2018, carried 5-0.*
- 2) *Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Martin, to seal the Nonpublic Session of March 27, 2018, carried 5-0.*
- 3) *Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to hire MRI for the search process of a Land Use Director, carried 5-0.*
- 4) *Motion to adjourn at 10:28 p.m. by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, carried 5-0.*

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion relative to the Opioid Problem

Chairman Coutu recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton and Police Chief Jason Lavoie. Welcome Chiefs. We weren't given any material prior to the meeting. I suspect you'll provide us with sufficient information.

Chief Buxton understood the Board has requested us to come here this evening and discuss an application from Harbor Homes for some additional grant funding to support their safe station program out of the City of Nashua. The Board wanted to have some general discussion. I provided you with a couple of documents that I received this week from Chief Brian Rhodes from Nashua Fire Rescue who is the new Chief of Nashua Fire. It gives you a copy of frequently asked questions for the safe station program which I'll give you a general review. It also provides you with a list of communities that have utilized safe station. Hudson has utilized the NH Safe Station Program 65 different times between both the Nashua and the Manchester facilities. Sixty-one of those uses was in the City of Nashua and four uses were in the City of Manchester. That means 65 residents from town have utilized the safe station program in either Nashua or Manchester.

For general purposes, Chief Buxton explained what the safe stations program is is that somebody who finds themselves in need of support from addiction has the ability to go to any - and I'll use Nashua as an example - to go to any one of the six fire houses in the City of Nashua, knock on the door and receive a quick medical evaluation. Harbor Homes comes in and brings them for direct access into rehabilitation program or evaluation for the rehabilitation program. They are grant funded. Their recovery from insurance is very low. I asked the Chief of the fire department if he could give me a round number as to where they were at compensation wise from insurance and he said they don't even have that tracked at this point because the reimbursement is not on the market. It doesn't even show a tick on their system. They have put up several dollars themselves between the City of Nashua and Harbor Homes. It is a joint venture and you have the ability to access the program from any community or State that you're in and you look at the back of that sheet, you'll notice that there are different States that have actually entered into the program. It is a service that is regional and they approach it from a regional approach. They are providing a service to us here from that regional approach for accessibility of our residents.

Chairman Coutu asked have we considered our own safe station. Chief Buxton said that was a great question. I talked with Chief Rhodes and one of the things that he told me was they're averaging approximately 11 minutes out of service for a fire company. So somebody comes to the door, rings the bell, and within 11 minutes they have a private ambulance service over there so they're not dealing with fire based EMS. So they have an EMS unit who's coming over to do the medical survey and Harbor Homes is also meeting them there. One of the things that makes their system tick is the fact that that Harbor Homes unit that goes around for the pickups is within the city proper. We had conversation I said is Harbor Homes interested in expanding that outside of their loop. That is outside the scope of their program. They don't have interest in looking to do that because that lengthens the response time to their own facilities within Nashua.

Chief Buxton explained their view was to have us continue to use their program as a regional approach is what he had pushed to me. I support that from a couple of different perspectives. A) we don't have the resources in town from a rehabilitation standpoint so we don't have a Harbor Homes in Hudson, or for overnight care, or rehabilitation; and B) to utilize an ambulance to conduct that transport. There's no recovery on the other end. I'll use the City of Concord as an example. They don't call it safe station. They have another name for their program. They actually do transports in the ambulances to a rehabilitation center. One of the challenges is this is a voluntary admittance program. There has been instances where the ambulance has been out of service for 20 - 25 minutes taking them to the rehabilitation standpoint. In that travel distance if they decide that they don't want to admit into the rehabilitation program and there's no ability for the city to recover any of the funds and they lose that resource for that amount of time. With our proximity to the City of Nashua, I look at it and say are we better off supporting them regionally and continuing to support their efforts which I think is in our best interests. I think that's the best route to go from this perspective for us.

Chairman Coutu asked have we had people knock on either of our doors saying they needed help in town. Chief Buxton said we've had people stop by for directions. You've picked up as to why they're there looking how to get to the City of Nashua. Nobody has shown up and asked for a safe station admittance at one of our facilities.

Chairman Coutu asked Chief Lavoie none at the Police Department. Chief Lavoie said no. Chairman Coutu said if you have a problem, we transport them. We have opioid problems here in the Town of Hudson. We transport them to one of the local hospitals. Any questions at this point from anyone?

Chief Lavoie said I'll be as quick as I can. I wasn't quite sure what the Board wanted to hear from my side of the house but I thought I'd provide some statistical data in regards to things that we've been facing as well as what we've been doing with it. I have a dozen slides and I'll try and push through these without being - I'll probably come across as being brief or short. Basically since 2006, we started tracking this in 2014. In the beginning of 2014, we started to see an uptick in medical emergencies and specifically overdoses. We didn't know quite what it was but we started to track it back in the beginning of 2014. By the end of 2014, we saw that it was heroin fentanyl was becoming the problem. Since 2016 where this thing has continued. We started putting in locations and in order to do this, it's only from 2016 - Thursday when I realized that this was coming up on Tuesday, we didn't have enough time to do all the longitude and latitude coordinates for all the calls for service to add back to 2014 regarding this. My point of this map is to show that this problem hits everywhere in our community. The blue dots are single responses. Red dots are fatal overdoses and the green is multiple responses. Again going back to 2016 to today. It is in every neighborhood is what I'm trying to show on that map. Total overdoses since 2013, again, if you saw the overdoses on the left-hand column it was about 20. You could see a low end one for heroin being four back in 2013. We've gone up as high as 55 in 2016. We seem to be a little bit ahead of pace as we move forward this year.

Chief Lavoie noted there's no rhyme or reason by month. Again this has been all data that we've been keeping and monitoring since 2014 that we've been tracking to see if we can find any kind of a trend and we really can't. It seems to be we have some highs and some lows in different months and different years. Age groups. This is for 2018. We're seeing female would be the lighter blue column and the column on the right for those at home that can't differentiate between the two colors and men are on the left which his more of a greenish color. You can see the age groups 18 to 25 for women right now is our higher side of the overdoses where men over age 36 is the higher side. Percentage is going back to 2016 to now shows that men are on the left - the darker blue column with the gray column being female. You have the percentages there. It's a little hard to see the age groups. Twenty-four percent from age 26 to 35 for men. Seventeen percent for women age groups 18 to 25; 18 percent for men and 12 percent for women. We've had an overdose between the 12 to 17 age group. During this time, we've also had one prior to in that younger age group. 2014 to present, there were 232 total overdoses. Out of those overdoses, 28 were repeat overdose patients; 166 were fentanyl overdoses; 11 were confirmed fentanyl versus heroin. What's been going on is the State isn't even really testing the stuff anymore. They're just saying its fentanyl because of the resources it takes to do it, the time involved, the cost. It's just not worth them doing it any more. We're just not really testing it. Twenty-three overdoses resulted in death. All but two were heroin use. We had two deaths. One was as a result of huffing, the other one cocaine, and we did have one synthetic marihuana overdose.

Chief Lavoie explained what are we doing about it. We have a couple task force officers that we've committed to investigating it because Hudson we're not going to really see it on our streets but there is a lot of dealing that does take place in our community via cars, parking lots, etc. We also have a number of residents that go outside the community. This is a regional problem. It's a nationwide problem and we've committed a couple of officers towards that to deal with that. This is just one seizure with 17 kilos of fentanyl and 6 kilos of heroin. Here's some stuff from another seizure that took place: guns, obviously money, drugs. Some additional stuff with the statistics as far as arrests goes, people assigned to this have dismantled approximately 38 drug trafficking organizations. Fourteen different gangs have been disrupted. The countries that we have been involved with investigations stem from coast to coast in the United States, to the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Columbia, Canada, Puerto Rico, and Bosnia. We've seized assets collectively between the groups of \$2 million in US currency. At least 65 kilos of heroin, fentanyl, 9 kilos of marihuana, 15 kilos of other assorted drugs, property in well over \$500,000 recently. We just acquired a few more homes. That price is going to be going up. Well over 34 firearms due to something that took place yesterday. A couple of motor vehicles. The units have received a number of awards for their work - about 6 different awards throughout the country that they received because, again, they've done an outstanding job.

As we've been looking at the data for the last few years, Chief Lavoie said we're trying to figure out why is this problem continuing to grow and what can we do differently. Looking at the data, we found that 48 percent of the people that have become overdose patients we had prior contact with them either where it involved drugs whether it was through an arrest, or just a contact out in the field, or whatever it may have been 48 percent of those overdoses we had a prior contact to. I'm trying to do something else to keep our community healthy and get them better is we've created a business card that the officers now have. The card is to encourage people to what Selectman Coutu was talking about earlier is we understand that this is a challenge to get through. It's a very hard thing to fight off. We are encouraging people if they're feeling that need to use and they don't want to, reach out to us. We'll try to get you some help, make contacts for you to get you to a place. Our concern is for their physical wellbeing. On the back side of the card if they don't want to contact law enforcement or EMS, we have numbers there that they can call one of which is a mobile crisis response team where they will drive out to you if you're having that cognitive where you don't want to use and you don't feel safe you can reach out to them.

Chief Lavoie stated the last thing that we're doing or the next we're going to be implementing is a number of years ago we started and going to try to mirror the domestic model that we've been utilizing where we have a victim witness advocate that for years and years law enforcement would go to a domestic violence situation, take care of the incident there that night, and then we move on and we wouldn't have any further contact with them until there was another call to go to that residence. So we would go there on a regular basis. We were constantly going because we were just basically putting a band-aid on it and solving the problem for that night. With the positions that have been created and which the town has wanted a victim witness advocate when we go to any domestic, the victim witness advocate then reaches out to the person involved who we feel is the subject of that situation and they have conversations. That has reduced recidivism and we are finding that to be a huge benefit. It's helped solve a lot of serious problems that we were not able to solve. My thought process now is why don't we mirror this with the overdose situation so when we do respond with fire to one of these calls, Captain Lucontoni has volunteered to start following up with phone calls and say hey look we understand that this is a problem and if you want help, we're here to help you. We're going to try talking with people and seeing if we can encourage them. I know it's not going to solve the problem. I know it's not going to make it go away by any means but if we can help one or two people over the course of the year and save a life, what that will do for someone's family will be critical. We're changing up how we do things because the way we've been doing them isn't working as you saw by the numbers.

Chairman Coutu thought it's imperative that Captain Lucontoni and whoever you might designate continue to reach out. I read a very interesting story yesterday. It was about a community in Massachusetts whose high school dropout rate was ridiculous and they started an advocacy program where they reach out to students. They have reduced their rate by 80 percent. They're going to have very few that don't graduate this year and go onto college. They had this story about this Cambodian lad who had lost total interest in school. The advocate went to the home, sat down with him. He responded and he said that had that person never reached out, he may have never graduated from school. He'd be out in the streets. The way the approach was done was in such a way that he was so impressed that somebody cared enough to go to the home and not discipline him, not threaten him with arrest because he wasn't going to school, but try to explain to him the benefits of going to school and what he would miss out in life and the things he wouldn't be able to get as a result of not having a good education. He not only is graduating, he received a scholarship for a local college. So reaching out to people is imperative for the program to work not as a law enforcement official or a firefighter, it's more as a personal touch to caring about their problem and what can we do to help them.

In the statistical data that the Fire Chief handed us in terms of safe house usage in Nashua, Chairman Coutu asked is that number that serviced Hudson residents in addition to all the numbers that are on the board of what the Police Department had to respond to. Would the safe station numbers be in addition to? Chief Lavoie said that would be separate. Could there be some overlap of some people? These are people that went on their own over to Nashua. They didn't contact us to bring them over there. Chairman Coutu said we don't have the breakdown but we know that 61 people were serviced from Hudson in the safe houses in Nashua. Chief Lavoie said we've been averaging in the mid 50s for overdoses a year on top of that. Chairman Coutu said I've been monitoring obviously and my position now the emergency

management coordinator so I pay even more attention when I'm monitoring the radios. It hurts me every time I hear that there's a call for either fire or police for an overdose situation. Most of the time they're young people. We're fortunate in the respect that if you look at the statistical data that you provided, the under 13 apparently we haven't had any and I'm grateful for that. We need to reach out to the whole community and try to - it's not an easy issue to resolve. Does anybody have any questions or comments?

Selectman Morin asked in your opinions would a safe station help in Hudson. Chief Buxton thought there is certainly a value there. When you have 65 residents that had some place to go to receive regional services from healthcare, a mental health standpoint, advocacy standpoint, addiction standpoint, I think that's a program that's worthwhile. I think that that is a program that will continue into the future and I think it's a wise investment.

Selectman Morin said the second question would be we're talking about funding. Would it be your opinions that is it worthwhile to assist the safe station or should we invest more funds in the programs the two departments are working towards to see what we can do here versus over there. Chief Lavoie started by saying in my opinion we're doing it while we're on duty. It's not like I need to hire somebody else. Does it mean it will work well? Yes. Phone calls and conversations absolutely it's going to be more of a workload. To invest on our end at this point, I don't think I would need to see that. I would support at least a place such as Harbor Homes that is willing to get - the key to getting people in the treatment programs. If we can get people into programs and if they have the finances because it's not cheap to do those things. I think that's extremely helpful. If anything I would also add to the Board one of my task force officers is in the audience. I didn't know if the Board had any questions.

Selectman Morin stated I'm understand what you're saying right now but if you look at how the safe stations have taken off once they've started and once people understand that you may have contact and can help them, you're probably going to start seeing an influx of people too that's why I'm asking. Right now you don't but as soon as people know that if I go to a Hudson police officer, I stop at the station, or Hudson fire, you may start getting that which is going to put an increase more than you expect that's why I'm asking. Do we need to look at this both sides?

Chief Buxton thought from the one piece that I would add is there's a particular piece of infrastructure that's missing and that is the rehabilitation access point. When you look at Hudson proper, that is a piece of infrastructure that is not available in town. To create a connection point to either a Nashua, Manchester, or Concord, how is that being done? Is that going to require funds out of the Town of Hudson? Yes. Have those relationships been built to know what that cost is from my vantage point? No. We have been supporting the safe station program on the peripheral and certainly through the community grant program that you've done to this point. Is that some place that we need to go? What I can tell you sitting here tonight is we had 65 residents that sought assistance out there. Is that a number that we're going to be able to attract that infrastructure coming into town? I can't answer that question.

Selectman Morin understood that but once they hear that there's possibility that we can help, it may put more people in and you may be tying up an ambulance for a few minutes or a police officer that's why I was asking. Chief Buxton thought that was certainly something worth watching. Right now I don't know that we have that information to make that determination.

Chairman Coutu asked Chief Lavoie do you find that the court system is responding in kind to the crisis that we're in here in New Hampshire. Are the penalties getting stricter for fentanyl dealers? Chief Lavoie said with the dealer part of it that would be something that my task force officers would see the end result in. I believe have afforded some articles to the Board of Selectmen in which arrests have been made. It takes time. Since we've been doing this, a lot of these trials are still pending. We've had some plea deals that have taken place for a bunch of years that people are going to jail for but I would defer that to Detective Keller.

Detective Matt Keller apologized and said you were asking if the Judges or the courts are...Chairman Coutu asked are we finding that as a result - this is not a problem in 2018. It's been ongoing for a long time. Knowing you and the length of service and what you've done, you've seen the up kick in the drug problem as a whole from Marijuana to fentanyl at the extreme end and at the lower end obviously would

be marijuana or household medications that kids or people take. Have you noticed whether or not the courts have gotten stricter in terms of the penalties for dealing high level drugs such as fentanyl? Detective Keller said no I haven't. Most of the cases I work are in the federal system. The federal government has sentencing guidelines that they tend to follow but we think should happen or should be the result of an investigation is not always necessarily where it lands. I have seen people put away for life for being repeat offenders. I've also seen people walk out of court with they only got what! I think it's a multi-faceted problem Chairman and I don't think the courts are our answer. I don't think enforcement is our answer. I don't think rehabilitation is our answer. I think all of that together is our answer. I don't believe I've seen that an increase in sentencing for fentanyl dealers in the court system.

Chief Lavoie said what Detective Keller is saying is that is laws that would need to change, the matrix that the federal government uses for sentencing would have to change. That's beyond our pay grades. At the local level, the District Court has implemented a drug court system and we are seeing results of that. Basically someone would come in and if the crimes that they are committing basically have a drug route to them meaning that they may be shoplifting, stealing, or committing crimes in order to support their drug habit and there are a number of other ways you could get into the drug court, the drug court is kind of a good thing. It is a good thing but it puts a carrot out there because the person has to plead guilty to the crime in which they've done. That puts them in a diversion program where they have to get counseling. They get drug tested. They get all these things and it lasts over a period of time. I think with and in some situations we're doing a plea deal or a slap on the wrist and go away, that's not effective. I think we need long-term treatment. There's a whole bunch of things that need to take place in order for people to get well but time is the big thing - time, changing their lifestyle, who they hang out with, etc. but it's hard to help them find jobs afterwards. It's hard to break them of the cycle that they're in.

Chairman Coutu said I've seen you on television Detective Keller relative to community outreach for our community. Are we still continuing that effort to - I think that when I watch your programs - for me it's imperative that we continue because when I watch you and I used to watch Captain Lucontoni do programs as well is that the way you speak to the adult population about the safeguards they need to take and knowing what's going on in the home and the signals to see if there's something that they spot and you're giving them that education. I was wondering if that's continuing. Detective Keller said typically yes. I'm not bashful about talking about it in a line at Dunkin Donuts but the normal forum that we do it in is the citizens police academy and unfortunately that doesn't look like it's happening this year because of lack of interest. We talk about it and it's not just me. I know all the officers when they're given the opportunity to talk to somebody hey my son X or my daughter is acting different the officers have the tools and the willingness to offer their signs to look for and what you can about it. Chairman Coutu thought Hudson is blessed when you look at our first responders - our police, our fire. They treat people with genuine concern. They don't talk down to them. They respond to them with kindness and they're always willing to reach out and help. We can see that all of the community service that they provide for our community - the volunteering - a lot of it is not paid for and that's greatly appreciated. I commend you.

Obviously by the numbers, the problem is not going away. Chairman Coutu said it appears that you said as you stated when you showed the chart for 2018 this is only here we are in April and we're at almost the same level that we were last year which was not a great year. Its tough work and we appreciate the information you've provided us. I hope the community realizes that you're only a phone call away. You can call the Fire Department the Police Department. You want to get into a buddy buddy program with some of our police officers if they can help you, I know that they will. Matt has done it for a lot of people and I know as he said other officers have as well. Every one of them is available. They're approachable. If you're a parent and you have a child that you feel is in need, call and get some advice and we'll see what services we can provide you.

Chairman Coutu asked if there was anything else gentlemen? Anything else members of the Board? With that, I want to extend my sincere appreciation on behalf of the citizens of Hudson for coming here this evening. We appreciate it. It was very informative. Thank you so much.

Selectman Morin asked do we want to discuss right now and participate in some funding towards this or do you want to do that later. Chairman Coutu said that would be a separate item. Steve Malizia stated I'll bring out that memo that you received the last time and at least let you know what you've given already

for community grants if that's what you're talking about. Chairman Coutu noted we'll take into consideration those numbers that we have.

B. Bid Recommendation - Engineering Services for MS4 EPA Permit

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima. If you would Mr. Dhima prior to going into the bid recommendations for our listening audience, could you explain what the EPA Permit MS4 exactly what MS4 is.

Elvis Dhima stated that you Mr. Chairman for asking that question. Good evening everyone. Basically the MS4 is in a nutshell the municipality separator storm system that includes road, ditches, storm water systems such as catch basins and pipes. Basically Hudson is one of the municipalities in New Hampshire to have an MS4 Permit. Basically in 1972 the federal government passed a law. It's called the "Clean Water Act" also known as the "Federal Water Pollution Control Plan". Basically what that is the feds own the rivers and they want to know exactly what goes into their property. Some of those runoffs are through the sewer and some of those runoffs are through the drainage. Basically in the past there's been a set of regulations that we were able to handle it through applying it with ourselves. Every year we applied for it. The Chairman of the Board signed it. We sent a TPA. During involvement with administration about five years ago, there was talk about updating and making stricter regulations related to the water quality - the water within it. It's been for discussion for a long time. We thought it was going to be off. It was back on the table, off again, off again, and basically what we're looking at is a July 1, 2018 that's where it is supposed to kick in. Massachusetts and New Hampshire are basically lined up to be on the same time to be activated. This is not a nationwide issue. Unfortunately there's only four States and New Hampshire is one of them that still answers to EPA and also the States have moved on and they have their own State delegation that basically goes by the EPA guidelines but they regulate this permit to fit their needs within their State. NHDES right now with the legislators are working to maybe do a pilot program so maybe DES can take over this program from EPA. Unfortunately until that happens, we still have to go with the current guidelines that the EPA has in place.

With that said, Mr. Dhima said we as a town and there's been a lot of municipalities that have been fighting this we've been doing our homework to make sure that we map out the entire town. I know that every single pipe that's out there one needs to be done. We've documented everything. We've put everything up to our GIS and we're light years ahead of everyone else ahead of us. What we're doing is basically trying to be proactive and stay ahead of this. A lot of people feel that this is not fair. As an engineer, I can tell you I agree. As a Town Engineer, I have to say we have to be proactive about this and we have to stay ahead of this. With that said with the deadline approaching, I felt that we filed for the last time on our own the MS4 Permit. Selectman Coutu signed it and it was sent to the Boston office. Moving forward we need to have some kind of assistance from other consultants that are specializing in this field to help us identify what we need to test, what we need to sample, what we need to look for. Hopefully we don't find anything that's not there. Basically that's it in a nutshell - identifying what we need to do, what we need to sample, how we're going to deal with it. The way this contract was set up is for a five year program. The EPA understands that it's a tough new restrictions on local without any funding from them so it's on us. They're spreading it out over five years and that's why we went out for a five-year contract for this. The Board can approve this tonight. I can tell you that we're not going to sign a PO for five years. We're going to do this every year based on the needs we have and also to keep the costs low, we're going to utilize the engineering intern during the summer for 16 hours of work to assist with this. So why that number \$20,000 a year average might seem high, it's much lower than everyone else that will be paying around us. That's thanks to the support from the Board with the GIS and other programs that we have had in place through Highway and Engineering to get us as far as we can. We just need a little assistance now to get it to the finish line.

Mr. Dhima explained that's that and we went out to bid. We got six bids and four of them within range. They basically varied from \$98,000 to \$130,000 for the five years. Looking at them, I felt that the lowest one which is about \$1,000 less than the second lowest one had things that came across as extras. I didn't feel comfortable with them. I felt that they should have been part of the base contract. That's why I'm recommending to you the second lowest bidder or as I say the most qualified, lowest bidder for this. That's basically a \$200 difference per year. That's it in a nutshell. I don't want to get into the weeds with this.

Chairman Coutu had a question. Are you saying the lowest bidder is not qualified? Elvis Dhima said the lowest bidder has things that should be on the base contract should be part of the scope and it feels like they have it under additional services.

Chairman Coutu's second question was going to be what were the extra costs that the lowest bidder - he had extra costs that he was adding on but it was going to be billed separately is that correct which would have brought the total amount...Mr. Dhima said yes. Chairman Coutu said if somebody asks how come you didn't go with the lowest bidder because the lowest bidder had hidden costs. Mr. Dhima indicated it would have been the highest bidder at the end of the day. Chairman Coutu said I took a look at it and realized what it was and then I said we better explain why we're going in that direction. Any questions from the Board? Seeing none.

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to award the bid for a five (5) year contract for engineering services to VHB Engineers for the new MS4 Permit in an amount not to exceed \$99,800 as recommended by the Town Engineer and the Finance Director, carried 4-0.*

Chairman Coutu said the Town Engineer I'm going to ask though it's not an item on the agenda, I'm going to ask the Town Engineer to stay seated. Did we have two more subjects that we wanted to go over or just the one? Mr. Dhima said just one under public. There will be another one in nonpublic.

Chairman Coutu noted I had the distinct opportunity once again to accompany the Town Administrator, Selectman Morin, and our Town Engineer. Last week we went to the Department of Transportation. Of late, I heard again yesterday evening at the Conservation Commission meeting that the circumferential highway they're sick of hearing about it. It's a dead issue. Well I can tell you ladies and gentlemen this has been in process I think for about 20 years. I've been actively involved and participated for the past ten. You've heard me always say it's never a done deal until they fold up the project, revert the land back to its original use, and they walk away. They have not done that. There is some light at the end of the tunnel.

Chairman Coutu stated I was asked to be a guest on a radio talk show WSMN that services Nashua and Manchester. I was on for approximately a half hour last Friday morning. During that period of time, a discussion came up about the host of the show was Len Lathrop - the publisher and editor of the Hudson/Litchfield News. He also runs this radio program. He knew that we were going to Concord and he asked me what the results of Concord and I said I have breaking news for you. I'm going to reveal it this evening. Last night at the meeting I believe you said Engineer Dhima and you as well Selectman Morin. Stay tuned to tomorrow night's meeting which is tonight's meeting you might hear otherwise.

Chairman Coutu said I'm going to give each of you an opportunity to speak because you were all involved was back in Concord today to meet with a Senate subcommittee that was holding hearing relative to looking at the 10 year plan and the potential of putting the circumferential highway back on the 10 year plan. At the meeting the most shocking revelation for me - I wish I had the patience that our Town Engineer and the Town Administrator and Selectman Morin have. They're a good balance for me because I get all excited. I yell at people and we get things done. With that said what I heard that was absolutely shocking and I think even though they don't react like I do, I think it was as shocking to them. We pay \$20,000 a year to the Nashua Regional Planning Commission. Those of you who followed my political career know that every single year I suggest we should not include that in the budget we should remove the money. The Commission Victoria Sheehan said to me well you're a member of the Regional Planning Commission. Why hasn't the Regional Planning Commission ever come to the Department of Transportation and advocate for a circumferential highway? I said they haven't.

Chairman Coutu asked what have you all heard - when I say you I'm not talking to just you in this audience. I'm talking about the viewing audience. What have you heard year, after year, after year at candidate's night? This one question always comes up. What is the most critical issue facing the Town of Hudson? What is the answer - our transportation, our access ways? We have a cluttered Lowell Road. We have a cluttered 102. We have a cluttered 111. It's getting worse year by year because the amount of construction that's ongoing because the amount of industrial growth we've had over the past four years. I can

remember 6, 7 years ago our industrial parks were almost empty. Now they're almost completely full so we're attracting more people into our communities. We have some great restaurants in our community. We have the beautiful Benson Park that attracts a lot of travelers to come to our community. They have never advocated. They - Nashua Regional Planning Commission - has never advocated for Hudson. My response was of course they don't. They advocate for Nashua, Merrimack, and Manchester. They get millions upon millions of dollars. \$490 million is going to be spent this year that's been allocated to the Department of Transportation. Not one dime in the Town of Hudson. I've been on this Board for 10 years and not one dime in the past 10 years. Not one dime for highway construction. We get a few grants every now and then. They throw us a couple thousand here or there to keep you busy Elvis.

What further shocked Chairman Coutu was we have 14 members of the House of Representatives representing this town - 14! The City of Lowell has 110,000 population. They have four representatives. We have 14. Not a single representative ever called DOT to bring this issue forward and to advocate for us to get on the 10 year plan. Ladies and gentlemen, I think we have a great chance of getting on the 10 year plan but there's a catch and I want you to know what it is up front. If the process allows us to put a ballot question on next year, we will either start resolving this issue or it will be dead once and for all and we're going to have continued cluster forever on Lowell Road, 111, Derry Road. It's just going to be a nightmare as this town progresses. You look at the map and you look how much vacant land there is in this town. There's an awful lot of land that's available for development. Developers are going to start scooping it up little, by little, by little. The Town Administrator and I had this conversation today. Geographically we're the same size as Nashua, New Hampshire. Look where Nashua is. You know where Nashua was 25-30 years ago, it was mid-size Hudson not population wise but in terms of its development. Now development is still ongoing in Nashua, New Hampshire. The population is going to increase. Well they're not 100,000, they're about 70-75,000 to 80,000.

We can build from the Sagamore Bridge down to 111. There are stakeholders, bondholders who own all of the land. All of the land designated for the circumferential highway has been identified from here, across 111, across 102, all the way to Route 3. Can you imagine envision that circumferential highway - I don't know why you'd get off 103 here and go down the circumferential highway to get to 103 unless you want to bypass all the Nashua exits where it piles up sometimes. Just coming off 111 to head north on Route 3 or Merrimack because you work in Merrimack how much traffic is going to be taken off Derry Road. How much traffic is going to be taken off the Memorial Bridge going across Nashua into downtown Nashua because you'll be able to access Route 3 from the circumferential highway? The only way we're going to get this project done is we have to undertake it ourselves. We have to take Phase I and develop Phase I. What does Phase I take us to? Phase I takes us from the Sagamore Bridge to Route 111 and it would come out because that question is going to be asked 100 times this week. It's going to come out on Route 111 across from Windham Road. Yes it will cross Kimball, Musquash, and Bush Hill Road. It will cross there and yes there may be some traffic lights. It will get the traffic off of Lowell Road. It will take the traffic off of Wason Road which is cluttered and we'll have a main artery two lanes - one east one west, north west or something like that - and it's going to take a lot of traffic off of Lowell Road and bring them up to 111 because then they won't have to come all the way up to Central Street cutting across here on Library Street and bottleneck up there. They will be able to get right across to 111 and the same for people on 111 rather than 111 and 102 because you can come down 102 across to 111, get on the circumferential highway and have a quick access south to Route 3.

Chairman Coutu said it would be of tremendous benefit to the town. Now the shocker is what does it cost to build that small piece? It's estimated at approximately \$50 million. Sounds like a big ticket item and it is but it will spur some momentum into the bond holders to build the rest of it. If they see that we've made a commitment to this, the Department of Transportation feels very strongly and the other three will be speaking on this that the bondholders they're going to want to get their money back somehow. The land is just sitting there. They will approve probably putting it on the 10 year plan to extend it out whether it's just to 102 or all the way to the river. I imagine if they're going to want to start the construction, they'll want to finish it. It's very possible. This is the only way the circumferential highway will get done. If we don't act and it's not a question of acting quickly, it's just a matter of acting when the time is right and they give us the green light, the Town Administrator will be checking to see what our expectations are now that we've submitted everything we needed to submit. I want to thank the Town Engineer for everything he's done. Selectman Morin for accompanying me and Town Administrator you've been going to these

meetings just as long as I have if not longer. It's more than plausible. It's very probable. They were very receptive to doing it. They're going to be working with our Town Administrator very closely and they are going to provide - I would estimate the cost at approximately \$2 million and if that's not a correct number please correct me worth of engineering services to get this done. That's about \$2 million we won't have to spend to engineer the project because it's already been engineered. So that's where we stand. Selectman Morin if you want to pick it up from there and then the Town Administrator and the Town Engineer.

Selectman Morin stated the actual piece that we're looking to do is actually the biggest piece of the circumferential highway. What they asked us to do was to build it to their standards so when the other two lanes that they had previously planned come in it's already there. There was some EPA issues but due to the way that town's change and some other things, those probably could be handled and taken care of very easily. If we move towards taking care of this our self, this project will move to the front because the funding will be there and it will move to the front and will move right along. I took it as they were very acceptable for what we were saying and they did as the Chairman said offer to do all the engineering and planning and anything else we needed on that end of it to take care of that so the town wouldn't have to. We just have to have the funds to construct the road.

Steve Malizia echoed that. When we attended the meeting, that's what DOT said. Basically they asked us to provide them with correspondence and a request for the project to be put back into the 10 year plan acknowledging that we are looking at doing the funding. I testified today at a Senate subcommittee hearing for transportation on the 10 year plan very specifically to that point. I talked about our efforts that what we've done in the past and I did provide them with correspondence. No decision was made today but that was DOT's recommendation because if DOT can get that on the plan because we're funding it, they can work with us. I think that's the key. If we were to do something, it may start small but it could turn into something much larger but they will be able to assist us. Right now because it's not in the plan, they don't have any money. They really can't do much for us. So we're trying to make progress and I think we've made some progress over the last week or so. I will give a thank you to the Governor's office. The gentleman from the Governor's office also connected us all so we were all in the same room at the same time. Hopefully it's a start of something good.

Chairman Coutu said we did submit correspondence. Mr. Malizia said that's correct. I gave it all to the members of the subcommittee today.

Elvis Dhima thought you basically said everything. I think it helped that we kept the scope of work within Hudson. We didn't shoot for the moon. I also want to add that while we might start this project as you said Selectman Morin, something that we will discuss there is we would build what they call "one barrel" which is two lanes - one lane in each direction - and then basically hold one of their alignments they're going to basically mirror the same thing and basically turn this into a two lane each way which would be even more beneficial down the road. We're willing to hand over all of the designs at that turn or the alignments all the work that needs to be revised or updated but they're willing to hand that all over to us which is really good. It basically gives us a starting point without starting from scratch.

Chairman Coutu stated the fat lady hasn't sung yet. I'm not giving up. We're going to resolve this issue. I only have one more thing after this to resolve and we're working on that plan too. That's the park we talked about. Again I want to thank you Mr. Dhima, Selectman Morin, and our Town Administrator Mr. Malizia for having a cooler head than I had all of you. We're making progress. Thank you Mr. Dhima. I appreciate it.

#### C. Real Estate Services - 70 Rangers Drive

Chairman Coutu said what I'm going to do at this time is I am going to recognize the Town Administrator to go over the bids that we received from various real estate firms with regards to selling the property if we were inclined to move in that direction.

Steve Malizia stated the Board directed that a request for proposal be prepared to solicit real estate bids for the potential sale of 70 Rangers Drive. A specification was put together after much discussion amongst

the Board. It had a restriction. We're keeping it to 10 single family or duplex units. The Board realized that that may be intrusive to doing anything more. When this specification was released, it had a qualifier in it. Realtors knew that if they put a bid in what they'd be looking at. It was advertised direct mail to I think all the Hudson realtors and it was advertised in Nashua Telegraph, other media, and our web page. We received three bids. The three bids basically presented a proposed asking price for the land, a real estate commission, and also a marketing plan or some sort of materials on how they would market this. Based on the three bids that we got, I would recommend if we were to go out for sale to go to DiBernardo Real Estate. Ms. DiBernardo has represented the town in a bunch of other transactions particularly tax deeded land. She has an opinion of value of approximately \$529,900 for the property and she charges a 4 ½ percent commission and she had a marketing plan and given her past performance if the Board was so inclined, that's who I would recommend. The other realtors are probably fine but their suggested prices were lower and the commissions were higher. Based on the data that we've got in front of us, that's who I would recommend if the Board was inclined to put the property up for sale.

Selectman Morin noted we had a Conservation Commission meeting last night. There was almost two hours of discussion on this article. The committee has come forward with a few options that we can move forward with. They have not made any decisions yet because we haven't received all the information. They have not and they've actually only had a very short time to discuss this. I don't want to be the bad child or anything like that and I know we had the cell phone discussion last week. Unfortunately I got an e-mail at 6:15 tonight and I wasn't able to print it out. If it is all right with you Mr. Chairman, I'd like to read a couple of things off of that. This will be from the Chairman of the Conservation Commission three of the options that were discussed to do with the land. Option 1 is to leave it remaining town owned property. There was some discussion and he brought forward that due to rules and regulations, the town cannot charge the town for the property. It would basically just transfer over to the Conservation Commission. Option 2 - become conservation land with an easement or deed restrictions. So they'd have to look into that and go forward with all that. Option 3 - develop the property as open space subdivision or a town forest. Again very brief discussion on that.

Between the discussion they had with the Conservation Commission tonight and new information that we received tonight, I would like to offer that we defer this so that we have a little more time to look at that and get any further information that we may need and give the commission a chance to have another discussion on this before we move forward.

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to defer.*

Chairman Coutu indicated I'm going to support the motion. We have people in the audience that are here to see what our decisions are going to be. There's a lot more that goes into this than what we thought initially. I know that last week we seized on the opportunity. We came back from Concord Selectman Morin and Town Engineer, and the Town Administrator and I went up to Rangers Drive. Selectman Morin you've since returned to Rangers Drive. I'm don't have the ability to walk in there too deeply because of my problems medically with my legs. However, I had a good sense by going down Rangers and then we came out and went down Roy a well so I could get a good vision somewhat peripherally of where the land is located. It's a beautiful neighborhood. I just absolutely love the homes. Everything is clean. The landscaping is nice for what you get in the spring time anyway. It's a beautiful neighborhood. There are other considerations. I've said all along and I'm going to maintain that in my judgement in the end once I reached a final conclusion and I've gone back and forth and several of us I know listening to some of my other Board members that you feel the same way. One day you feel this is the right thing. Another day something else sounds a little more opportune for the town.

In the final analysis, Chairman Coutu said when I make my decision it will be based on the amount of research I did and the answers that I get. I'm in the middle of a major project today. I'll wrap that one up tomorrow and then I want to talk to other people in town and other people from our environs which would be probably Litchfield all the way up to Merrimack and talk to people I know in those communities. I'll probably include Pelham because I have a lot of friends that work in Pelham and serve in government in Pelham. I want to do what I think is in the best interests of the Town of Hudson and not directed towards one specific neighborhood. I will consider all of the notes that I have taken from the things that I've read in the paper, from the meeting that we had a board collectively talking to all of the residents on Rangers

and Roy. I don't think there's much more we can hear. They've pretty much laid it all out and they did so very eloquently and very impressively and with passion. That all matters to me. I think that's the direction that we want to go into. I think we need to take as a Board individually we all have to do our homework. We have to think this thing through. We are going to be accountable for our vote and how we vote. We're going to be accountable to a population of 25,000 plus and that's what we have to consider in the end. With that any further discussion on the motion?

Selectman Martin asked do we want to put a time limit. Selectman Morin stated there may be a time limit put on it. I did not.

Chairman Coutu said we're just going to defer this until further notice. You'll let me know. Selectman Morin said that was one of the questions I had cautioned the Commission last night that this Board may put a time limit on it to come up with a presentation to us so we can move forward one way or the other. That's up to this Board. Chairman Coutu said you would expect that the Commission might want to come in and make a presentation. Selectman Morin understood that from the meeting last night. They would like to put a plan together and make a presentation. Based on what they said last night, Chairman Coutu said the presentation would be that they want us to conserve the land. So what is there to present? Selectman Morin's personal opinion is they presented it in their meeting but they haven't presented it to the Board as a whole and I would like to just at least give them that option to move forward with that.

Chairman Coutu asked when is their next meeting. Selectman Morin noted next month but they can have a special meeting to discuss that. Steve Malizia said the land has laid vacant for quite a while. It will probably survive another month. Chairman Coutu said I would wait another month. Let's put it out in May - May 22<sup>nd</sup> because they too have to do their homework.

Selectman Martin stated Mr. Collins would like to speak to the Board. Chairman Coutu said I'm not opening this up to the public. Mr. Collins said this would be as part of the Conservation Commission. I have authority to speak by the Conservation Commission. Chairman Coutu said I know that. I saw the meeting last night. We're just going to defer this. It's the best way too to do it. There's no sense getting into a lengthy discussion. We're going to allow you to make a presentation to the Board. What we're doing now is deferring it so it gives us as the people who are going to make the final decision an opportune time to do some more research and at the same time afford you an opportunity as the Commission come in here with whatever plan they're proposing that we do with the land. I would assume that it will keep it conservation. I don't think you're going to come in here and ask us to build an industrial park over there because that will never fly. With that said is there any further discussion? Seeing none.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Coutu told Mr. Collins I just want to...Bill Collins stated what I was going to say was we need a little bit of time to contact a few individuals for land appraisals and things along that line. We weren't sure how long of a time limit you were going to give us to make a presentation. If there's any money in the expense...Selectman Morin said we gave you a month so you could have your next meeting.

#### D. Nashua Region Electricity Supply Aggregation

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said the Town of Hudson has participated along with other communities in the Nashua Region Electricity Aggregation purchase. I believe since 2012 we've been in the program and saved us many thousands of dollars because basically what's happening is the communities that are put together are going out to bid as a group to secure a lower contract energy rate. Our current contract runs out in November of this year. In anticipation of that, NRPC who has spearheaded this effort is asking if we would like to participate in the renewal, i.e. after November of 2018. If we do, we need to sign a Memorandum of Understanding because I believe they want to start doing their work approximately July. What is their work? They go out and solicit bids and what not for the energy renewal. From my perspective, it's been a good program for us. Again we saved many thousands of dollars because we've negotiated or they've negotiated a much lower kilowatt rate per hour for us. With that said if you'd like, you could authorize me

to sign the Memorandum of Understanding and work with them for a successor agreement. Again our agreement runs out in November at which point if we do nothing we will revert to the Eversource rate.

Chairman Coutu said not necessarily. Mr. Malizia said unless we do something on our own. Chairman Coutu said we could get the School Department with us. Steve Malizia stated I asked the School Department that question. So when I asked the School Department, I basically e-mailed the Business Administrator to just say hey the town has this opportunity as we've had in the past are you interested. In a nutshell, they have already signed a three year contract on their own. Chairman Coutu said they're not even joining on this and they had been. Mr. Malizia said they never have. I told them about the opportunity. They've chosen to go on their own. They are in a three year contract for themselves. Quite honestly right now, we're paying a little bit less than they are. Chairman Coutu asked they do know they are part of Hudson the School Department. Do you think they know that they're part of Hudson? Mr. Malizia said I put the offer out there for them to see.

Selectman Morin said you don't want my comment.

Chairman Coutu said I'm just appalled that they would go out on their own. How much more could we have saved had we done it together? Steve Malizia said I don't know because right now there are I think 17 communities and/or school districts. It's an aggregation of folks around us. I'm not sure if one more makes that much of a difference I don't know. I'm not the person that prices it out. All I know is it's beneficial to us to be in the aggregation. Again I offered it to them. They may be big enough on their own that they don't need us. What I mean is they may have enough kilowatt hours to sell out there in the market. If that's the route they've chosen to go, again I contacted them and said hey do you want to participate. They've already go a three year contract. Chairman Coutu thanked the School Department for thinking about the town as a whole in entering that contract. As your liaison, you're not going to hear the end of this.

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Hudson and NRPC in order to participate in the Nashua Region Electricity Supply Aggregation program, carried 4-0.*

#### E. School Impact Fee Release Request

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia stated the town collects money for school impacts. Basically what that entails is if you recall when the Hills Garrison School was built and the Memorial school renovations and expansion were completed, they were don't with bonded funds. The Town of Hudson collects impact fees for schools. In a nutshell, those school impact feels may be used for those bond payments thereby "reducing" the amount we need to raise from taxation. We're collecting it from developers - the development community. We're holding it and now when they make a request for release, we release it. What it does is it effectively lowers their amount that they need to raise from taxes. This is quite simply the purpose for which the money was raised in the first place.

Chairman Coutu asked did they tell us what they're going to use it for. Mr. Malizia indicated towards the bond payments to pay off the Hills Garrison and the Memorial Schools. They are constrained. It has to be something related to capacity. Those two buildings - the Hills Garrison and the renovation of the Memorial that were done at the beginning of the 2000 decade fit the criteria. That's what they've been using it for. It certainly is beneficial to do that.

Chairman Coutu asked if there were any questions for the Town Administrator. We'll show them how good we are. We'll cooperate with them.

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to release \$175,000 from School Impact Fee Account 09-2000-2080-000-051 per the request from Karen Burnell, Business Administrator for the Hudson School District, dated April 3, 2018. The funds will be used to offset this fiscal year's School District bond payment, carried 4-0.*

F. Revenues and Expenditures

Chairman Coutu noted you have in your packet tonight the monthly report. Steve Malizia said this happens to be through the first three-quarters of the year. Chairman Coutu said the revenues and expenditures, I defer to the Town Administrator.

Steve Malizia reiterated as the Chairman stated, this is 75 percent of the way through the year, i.e. there's three months left to go. We look pretty strong. As far as revenues go, automobiles are at 84 percent. Interest we've made 82k more than budget so far. Ambulance revenue is 84 percent. I certainly believe we will hit all of our revenue target and exceed. What does that mean? Those funds will flow to surplus which can then either be used for a project, savings, or for lowering the tax rate. On the expense side, hopefully we're done with winter. It snowed a little bit but it didn't appear to stick. I think we'll come in under budget and overall in the town our legal, our town poor those accounts are doing very well. It appears most of the departments will hit their budgets. Bottom line, I think we're in decent shape ¾ of the way through the year.

Chairman Coutu told Mr. Malizia the Highway Department shows 98 percent of their funds expended. Steve Malizia said if you recall, the Highway Department we got a block grant in this year's funding from the State. That has not been put into the budget yet. Once Mr. Burns complete the paving in the spring, that whole amount will then be put in and it will be reflected in his budget. Right now, it's not in his budget.

Chairman Coutu noted that's a good thing. Motor vehicles is way up. Ambulance Selectman Martin in case you don't know is always when you're looking at the revenue side, they're always one month behind because of the way they bill. We're missing one month from this report for the ambulance. We're doing as you said exceptionally well on the revenue side. It's a great year.

Steve Malizia said it's been a very positive year. From a revenue perspective and again from an expense perspective, we are in very good shape heading into the last quarter.

G. Liaison Assignments

Chairman Coutu noted there will be one change on the liaison assignments. On the top on the committees under Library, Selectman Routsis has agreed to take that. So you can scratch out the assignment that was made because it's not going to be done. The NRPC meets I believe four times a year every three months. That one needs to be filled. The meetings are held in Merrimack four times a year. Anybody wish to serve on NRPC? Selectman Martin said I'll take it. Chairman Coutu said that does it. Everything else will remain as is.

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to approve the 2018 Board of Selectmen Liaison Assignments, carried 4-0.*

Chairman Coutu said as you know this will be to the end of your term as Selectman. As you know we have an appointment that the Board has to make to have a representative from this Board serve as a voting member to the Planning Board. This time I had had discussion with Selectman Morin. He indicated an interest so I've appointed Selectman Morin. I will need an approval of the Board on this one.

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to appoint Selectman Morin as the Planning Board Selectman Representative for his term as Selectman, carried 4-0.*

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Routsis - I have nothing this evening.

Selectman Martin - We went to the meeting that was held in Nashua - Selectman Routsis and I - we went last Wednesday. It was an informative meeting but they were just showing us the scope of work that they

have se to work that intersection down East Hollis and down Bridge Street to get input from the public. There was quite a few people there. Everybody gave input so they're going to go back. I know the Town Administrator and Town Engineer are both members of that committee. The scope of work is in a predefined area and it doesn't involve Hudson. That's that. I don't have anything else.

Selectman Morin - A couple of things. The 19<sup>th</sup> there was a discussion about a meeting with the library. What that meeting is is the Budget Committee and ourselves wanted some discussion on what we were going to do with the Hills Library building. They put together this time with the School Administration, us, and they have invited the Chairman of the Budget Committee so we can discuss that and see where we're going to be moving forward. I will be attending but they were wondering if we were going to have at least 2 or 3 members of the Board or the whole Board attending the meetings so everybody can have their input.

Chairman Coutu asked is it going to be televised and is has it been advised as a public meeting. Selectman Morin said yes. They have an agenda that's going to be put out very shortly if it hasn't already been. Chairman Coutu thought that the Board should attend but that's up to each member whether or not they want to attend.

Selectman Routsis indicated I will make my best attempt to be there. Ari is in surgery the next day.

Chairman Coutu asked where the meeting was going to be held. Selectman Morin noted at the Hills Library.

Selectman Martin indicated I will tell you now that I have a wedding rehearsal to conduct so I will not be present.

Chairman Coutu asked the Library at 7 p.m. Selectman Morin corrected saying 6 pm.

Chairman Coutu said I've spoken to some members of the School Committee. They welcome - yay finally - they welcome our input to help them to try to have a vision for the library. I told them that from my perspective anyway the difficulty with that building is that if you start disrupting that building, the aesthetics are going to be lost. It has limited use but we could put our thinking caps on and maybe somebody will come up with an idea that will catch on. Ideally for me, I'd like to move one of our department over there but then we have another property too that we could do that with. We'll have a couple of them after the fire station is opened number one. Number two, we have the recreation building up on the top of the hill that's now vacant and we can use that. I hope that you will think about those two things. We're going to have the fire station when we open on Lowell Road we'll be closing the fire station on Burns Hill. The rec. building otherwise known as Oakwood will be available. That has a lot more potential for us than anything we would want to put in a library. Put your thinking caps on because those two buildings are going to become agenda items. Burns Hill we won't be moving I believe until June. That will be a summer topic.

Selectman Morin said on Wednesday night the 18<sup>th</sup> is that combined meeting of Planning and Zoning and one of the Selectmen was going to chair that meeting so the Boards can discuss and have somebody to run the meeting. Who would you like to do that? We have the Zoning member and myself. We just need a Selectmen or we both should be there but somebody needs to run the meeting. Chairman Coutu asked they just want somebody to chair the meeting. Selectman Morin figured one of the Selectmen could chair the meeting that way we could keep the conversation going instead of one of those chairs running the meeting one of us will. They can do their discussion and we can keep it moving. Chairman Coutu asked can you chair the meeting. Selectman Morin said I can. I want to make sure we have the zoning rep. too. I want to make sure of who you want to do it that's all. Both of us will be there. Chairman Coutu said I don't care who does it. Who's calling the meeting? Selectman Morin said I called the meeting before Mr. Martin was a Selectman. Chairman Coutu asked Selectman Morin to do it. It will be a good experience for you.

Selectman Morin thanked all those who were reappointed tonight and all the new people that came forward to serve the town. I appreciate it. That's a very tough thing for us to keep bringing volunteers in and I appreciated everybody that came in tonight for that. Thank you.

Selectman Coutu - I have nothing more than what we've already said.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, 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 4-0 by roll call.*

Chairman Coutu entered Nonpublic Session at 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 Coutu entered open session is being entered at 10:08 p.m.

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to approve the hiring of Dylan Robbs, Environmental Engineering student, for the position of Engineering Intern with a start date of May 21, 2018, working 40 hours per week at a rate of \$12.50 an hour for 13 weeks with budgeted funds coming from Account #4311-5585-103, carried 4-0.*

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to hire Hannah Truesdell, Samantha Brownrigg, Joseph Ricco, Chevon Gora, and Zachary Brothers as Substitute Counselor I/Robinson Road Attendants for the 2018 Summer Program at \$10.00 per effective May 25, 2018, carried 4-0.*

*Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Morin, to hire Olivia Beverly, Nichole Teague, and Victoria LaRoche as Counselor I at \$10.00 per hour; and hiring Cassidy Udice as Counselor II at \$10.50 per hour all effective May 25, 2018, carried 4-0.*

*Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Morin, to hire Kyle Gora, Olivia True, and Madison Schofield as Counselors in Training at \$8.25 per hour; and to hire Nathan Beliveau as Substitute Counselor at \$8.25 per hour, all effective May 25, 2018, carried 4-0.*

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to terminate of Don Bohnwagner as the Part-Time Information Technology Technician effective Wednesday, April 11, 2018, carried 4-0.*

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to replace the current part time IT Technician position and job description with that of a part time IT Technician II (level two skills), at a rate of \$25.92 per hour, not to exceed 29.5 hours per week effective April 11, 2018, carried 4-0.*

*Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin to hire Doug Bosteels as a part time IT Technician II at a rate of \$25.92 per hour, not to exceed 29.5 hours per week, effective April 12, 2018, carried 4-0.*

*Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to deny the elderly exemption request from owner residing at Map 225. Lot 3, carried 4-0.*

11. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn at 10:12 p.m. by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, carried 4-0.*

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

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Roger E. Coutu, Chairman

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David S. Morin, Vice-Chairman

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Angela Routsis, Selectman

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Normand G. Martin, Selectman