

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the April 24, 2018 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Coutu the meeting of April 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Executive Assistant Donna Graham.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Roger Coutu, David Morin, Marilyn McGrath, Normand Martin

Absent: Angela Routsis

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Police Chief Jason Lavoie; Road Agent Kevin Burns; Town Clerk/Tax Collector Patti Barry; Deputy Chief John O'Brien

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 please state your name and address for the record. Seeing none.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Recognition

1) Firefighter David Brideau - 20 years of service

Chairman Coutu invited Firefighter David Brideau up. It's one of the joys of being a Selectman is making these kinds of presentations. I never thought I'd see you here. Welcome.

David Brideau began his career with the Hudson Fire Department as a Call Firefighter in April 15, 1998. The following year he became a full time member of the department. Throughout the past twenty years, Firefighter Brideau has received numerous letters of appreciation along with being recognized with multiple unit citations and was the recipient of the Governor's Award in 2002.

Firefighter Brideau has been an active member of the department working in several areas of interest. He worked diligently as part of a group working on our rescue equipment, maintaining inventories, conducting maintenance, and proposing purchasing to make sure department goals were achieved. As a licensed plumber in the State of New Hampshire, Firefighter Brideau has not only run his own plumbing business but has provided technical assistance to repairs and projects throughout the Hudson Fire Department facilities.

In April of 2017, he received his AEMT license and became eligible to provide mid-level, pre-hospital emergency medical services for the town.

Firefighter Brideau has been a consistent contributor to his group with tremendous natural leadership skills. We wish to congratulate Firefighter Brideau on his twenty years of service to the citizens of Hudson and wish him the best as he continues his career with the Hudson Fire Department.

Dave on behalf of the Town of Hudson, we would like to present you with this Certificate of Appreciation from the Board of Selectmen as well as a small token of our appreciation. Congratulations my friend. Outstanding job.

B. Resignation

Chairman Coutu noted we will be removing this item. I had a conversation with the gentleman and convinced him to stay for the time being. It would be a tremendous loss if he were to leave. He's a friend of mine. We've had extensive conversations and we'll all set.

- 1) Resignation of Charles Brackett as a member to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment

C. Interviews

- 1) Benson Park Committee - 2 vacancies - 1 member term to expire 4/30/21; 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/19)

James Weaver - 27 Rolling Woods Drive.

Chairman Coutu stated you and your family have experience with this town. Why don't you give us an overview of why you would like to serve on the Benson Park Committee.

James Weaver indicated I'm just looking to make an impact any way I can in the town. There's a vacancy in the Benson's Committee. I've spoken with some of the members on the Benson's Committee. I've attended the last meeting. I went to the last cleanup day just to familiarize myself with them just have some discussions to see if it would be a good fit. I think it would be. Just looking to see if I can get involved in any other way. Chairman Coutu said you've obviously seen the crowds and what not that go to Benson Park and how many people appreciate the park. Mr. Weaver said me, myself, my wife, my kids we go there often. Chairman Coutu said I've seen you in the park. Is there questions from any members of the Board? No.

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

- 2) Conservation Commission - (2 vacancies - 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/18; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/2020)

Jennifer Parkhurst (cannot attend - will be at a May meeting)

- 3) Sustainability Committee - (5 vacancies - 2 member terms to expire 4/30/2019; 1 member term to expire 4/30/2021; 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/20; 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/2021)

Leo Bernard (incumbent member)

Chairman Coutu thought Leo Bernard is familiar with all of you. Leo has been serving for quite some time on the Sustainability Committee and prior to the Sustainability Committee the Recycling Committee. He's done an outstanding job. If there's no objection, I'll entertain a motion.

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

6. CONSENT ITEMS

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

Selectman Martin noted on the calendar I don't need to have it removed but I just want to make it known that the Budget Committee will not be meeting on May 2nd at 7 p.m. they will be meeting on May 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the Hills Memorial Library.

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) Elderly Exemption - Map 136, Lot 032 - 31 Bockes Road; Map 124, Lot 069 - 33 Beechwood Road; Map 156, Lot 019 - 7 Easy Street; Map 156, Lot 006, Sub 034 - 6A Doveton Lane; Map 214, Lot 012 - 173 Bush Hill Road; Map 197, Lot 151 - 12 Hemlock Street; Map 149, Lot 001, Sub 067 - 56 Glasgow Circle, w/recommendation to grant
- 2) Disabled Veteran Credit - Map 184, Lot 008 - 118 Belknap Road; Map 152, Lot 057 - 100A Barretts Hill Road, w/recommendation to grant
- 3) Veteran Tax Credit - Map 191, Lot 107 - 6 Coll Street; Map 116, Lot 052 - 4 Maureen Lane; Map 216, Lot 024 - 7 Holly Lane; Map 152, Lot 057 - 100A Barretts Hill Road; Map 184, Lot 013 - 9 Gordon Street; Map 177, Lot 059 - 58 Bear Path Lane; Map 173, Lot 051 - 39 Webster Street; Map 162, Lot 040, Sub 001 - 30A Lund Drive; Map 217, Lot 029 - 4 Mark Street; Map 133, Lot 020 - 4 Sandalwood Road; Map 156, Lot 005, Sub 058 - 23 Weymouth Court, w/recommendation to grant
- 4) All Veterans Credit - Map 205, Lot 009 - 14 East Hill Drive; Map 116, Lot 084 - 10 Stoney Lane; Map 234, Lot 046 - 6 River Road; Map 178, Lot 013, Sub 031 - 87 Mobile Drive; Map 156, Lot 005, Sub 014 - 15A Brackett Lane; Map 193, Lot 024 - 51 Bush Hill Road; Map 149, Lot 007, Sub 002 - 13B Sunshine Drive; Map 156, Lot 005, Sub 058 - 23 Weymouth Court; w/recommendation to grant
- 5) 2017 Tax Abatement - Map 166, Lot 8 - 24 Ledge Road, w/recommendation to approve
- 6) Elderly & Disabled Exemption - Map 184, Lot 1 - 1 Sheraton Drive, w/recommendation to deny
- 7) Solar Exemption - Map 205, Lot 028 - 13 East Hill Drive, w/recommendation to grant

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Abatement - S-CAP-18-02 - 10 Flying Rock Road, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) Water Abatement - W-UTL-18-03 - 3 Canna Path, w/recommendation to approve

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Request to Solicit Funds - Teen Challenge New Hampshire
- 2) Hudson Speedway 2018 Permit

D. Donations

- 1) Recreation Dept. - donation of floor covering valued at \$450 from the YMCA

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the April 3, 2018 Meeting
- 2) Minutes of the April 10, 2018 Meeting

F. Calendar

- 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
05/01 7:00 Board of Selectmen Workshop - BOS Meeting Room
05/029 7:00 Budget Cte - ~~Buxton CD Meeting Room~~ Hills Memorial Library
05/03 6:30 Recreation Cte - BOS Meeting Room

05/03 7:00 Benson Park Cte - Cable Access Center
05/08 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
05/09 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room
05/10 7:00 Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room
05/14 7:00 Conservation Cmsn - Buxton CD Meeting Room
05/14 7:00 Cable Utility Cte - Cable Access Center
05/15 7:00 Municipal Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room
05/17 7:00 Benson Park Cte - Cable Access Center
05/22 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
05/23 7:00 Benson Landscape Cte - BOS Meeting Room
05/23 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room
05/24 7:00 Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room
05/28 7:00 Sustainability Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on April 10, 2018

- 1) *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.*
- 2) *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.*
- 3) *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.*
- 4) *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.*
- 5) *Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to terminate of Don Bohnwagner as the Part-Time Information Technology Technician effective Wednesday, April 11, 2018, carried 4-0.*
- 6) *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.*
- 7) *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.*
- 8) *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.*
- 9) *Motion to adjourn at 10:12 p.m. by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, carried 4-0.*

B. Amendment to Liaison Assignments

Chairman Coutu stated there have been a couple of minor changes. Unless you want to get into specifics, I will entertain a motion.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to approve the amended Liaison Assignments to include Hudson Cable Television Department.

Steve Malizia indicated it was inadvertently omitted because in the past we've just had a Cable Television Committee. Now you actually have a department. You hired Mr. McIntosh as a Director. In keeping with having liaison assignments for departments, that's all we tried to do and we just simply forgot it.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

C. Harbor Homes - Request for Additional Funding

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia stated Harbor Homes is an agency that this town has given community grant funding to for the last several years - quite a few years now. Sometime in February correspondence was received from I believe the Director of Harbor Homes looking to see if the town would be able and willing to grant more funds to this organization. They're claiming a funding deficit basically stemming from dealing with the opioid crisis, i.e. the rehabilitation side of things. Quite simply put, the original request was for additional funding. There's no number specified. This Board I believe first discussed this at the end of February and deferred it until they could have a conversation with the two Chiefs - Fire and Police Chiefs - who came in at the last meeting and did a presentation to the Board to give you some sort of idea of the scope and what's going on with the opioid situation. At the conclusion of that presentation, the Board then directed that this item come back for some sort of either final closure or action on this Board's part. Harbor Homes again is asking for additional funding. I've provided you with some information. As you can see, I believe this year we are funding them \$3,000. They had originally asked in this fiscal year '18 that we're still in for \$7,500. This Board gave them \$3,000 which they've already received.

In fiscal '19 which is next year starting in July, Mr. Malizia indicated they asked for \$10,000 and the Board allocated \$3,000. That's going forward. From what I can tell, they're looking for money now. It's up to this Board what this Board chooses to do. It certainly could fund something, or nothing, or something that you feel is appropriate. Again this is outside of the budget requests. We don't typically get these very often using the funding that you give is the funding that they get. Again you heard arguments. I'm sure you read the packet. It's a simply request. It's up to this Board how they feel.

Chairman Coutu asked do you know how many municipalities do what we do and donate money out of their budgets. Steve Malizia said I don't have a specific number but its common practice amongst Merrimack, Londonderry, I believe Pelham, Nashua to give community grant funding to programs. The intention is some of those services we wouldn't have to provide. For example the Soup Kitchen, there's various shelters, things that we divert clients to that come in for assistance from the town. As you are well aware, we have a welfare budget. We are the first responders for lack of a better word for welfare. If somebody comes in, they meet the guidelines that have been established, they can get some temporary assistance until they get to other agencies via the State, federal government, whatever. Some of the programs that you fund help to mitigate some of that, i.e. we're not spending more money to put people in shelter. We're putting them in the Soup Kitchen shelter or they're going over to the food bank. It's pretty common practice that communities will allocate money. I haven't seen everybody else's budget. I don't know what they all allocate. This was a little unusual. Again it's coming off cycle. It didn't specify an amount. It did make some claims that I think 46 individuals from Hudson have used the service. I don't know to what level. I don't know if they're inpatient or if they're out patient. Again that's what's been asserted here. The town contributes already to that organization and other organizations in the area that provide a safety net, social network for folks who are in need.

Selectman Morin thought with the presentation from the Chiefs and the amount of Hudson residents that have used the safe station in particular and that we have no way to provide any service like that due to our manpower situation and all the other services, I'd like to complete the \$7,500 by making an additional donation of \$4,500.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to allocate \$4,500 in additional funding to Harbor Homes for their Safe Station program per their request dated February 12, 2018.

Chairman Coutu said I listened to the same presentation. We have requests every now and then from organizations especially before budget time they all want a lot more money. I could make a strong argument for other organizations that deliver services and the number of people and if we're going to open this Pandora's Box, we might as well start with this one. I will not support the motion. I don't think personally that we should be in the business of taking our taxpayer money and just making charitable contributions with it but I've supported it year after year on the basis of past practice and as a matter of fact I believe it was three years ago I had made a lot of phone calls and tried to get numbers from different organizations. We made an adjustment on our allocation but we tried to stay within \$90,000 because we were creeping up over \$100,000 back then and the requests were for a lot more in many instances and we've denied them all. Now what we're doing is somebody can just walk in the door after the budget discussion on all these allocations, request more money, and we're going to give it to them. I feel that if any other charitable organization comes in and makes an argument that we're serving 40, 50, or 100 citizens in Hudson, we deserve more money as well. I don't want to get into that debate with them because frankly I really don't think we should be taking our taxpayer money and just donating it but I can understand they do provide services so on the basis of that, I go along with the annual allocation. I'm not in favor of increasing those allocations.

Selectman Martin commented I understand you're concerned about allocating more money to another charity and opening up Pandora's Box. If I'm not mistaken, we did hear from the Chiefs and they did tell us that 60 some odd people have gone to the safe station program and that's a lot of people. Because of HIPPA practice, we don't know who these people are. We don't know if they're doctors, lawyers, policemen, or just other citizens. The need is there and I think this is a great way to give back to our citizens where they wouldn't normally know how to get services and they go to the safe station program. I do support the motion. Thank you.

Chairman Coutu said my argument was simply that every one of these organizations have a need and it far exceeds what they've requested and they didn't come back and ask for more money. This organization decided to come back and ask for more money. I don't dispute the presentation made by the Chiefs. I don't think the Chiefs endorsed it. I don't think they endorsed us giving them more money. They don't usually tell us how to spend money but I'm sure if another organization that they interact with did the same thing, they'd come in here and support them as well. Where do we draw the line that's my whole point? I'm just not in favor of exceeding \$90,000 already. What are we up to? Steve Malizia said so far your allocation was \$90,508. Chairman Coutu said we tried to keep it at \$90,000. So we're at \$90,500. This puts us up to \$95,000 and then this is going to be not just this year next year or the year after they'll ask for the \$7,000 and probably come back and ask for another \$3,000. I don't know where it's going to end. It is what it is.

Selectman Morin noted the safe station program is in a deficit and it has done great things for Hudson. If we can take a few people that we won't have to see again, it will be a good thing and let's take and figure out how many tax dollars we spend by the ambulances going to pick these people up, the police having to deal with the drug problem. I'm going to tell you that cost is way more than the \$4,500 we're talking about right now. If we can take a few of them out of system by helping this way, it will save us in the long run on both sides.

Selectman McGrath said this is a unique situation and it's not unique just to Hudson. It's all over the country. You listen to the news every day and just about every single day there's commentary by our national leaders, our local leaders, that this is an epidemic that's affecting a number of families, a number of people of all aspects of life whether they're professionals, whether they're blue collar workers it's affecting everyone. This is something that we need to really get a handle on because they're killing people.

I just heard a report lately where they did something with the fentanyl and it's so deadly that it kills them instantly. I read yesterday where there were two family members of a family of four children, two of the sons died of an overdose on the same evening. This isn't just kids going out and partying in the woods and smoking marijuana or taking something else. This is killing people. I think that we have an obligation as members of this community to help in any way that we can because the cost is not just losing lives, its costing families thousands of dollars to try to get treatment for their family members. This is a small amount and I think that it is necessary. I don't agree that it's opening a Pandora's Box at all. Other agencies would have to make an argument and a good argument that would convince the majority of this Board to add additional funds to those requests. This is something far greater than that.

Vote: Motion carried 3-1. Selectman Coutu in opposition.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to allocate \$4,500 in additional funding to Harbor Homes for their Safe Station program per their request dated February 12, 2018 and to amend by adding that the funds to come from the Town Poor Account, carried 3-1. Selectman Coutu in opposition.

D. Update - Speeding on Burns Hill Road

Chairman Coutu recognized Police Chief Jason Lavoie.

Good evening. Chief Lavoie said I'll be brief. I just thought it would be appropriate that I address the Board where a couple of weeks back I was in here regarding Burns Hill and there was some citizens in here as well. I've been able to work with Mr. Burns from the Highway Department who set out some speed counters for me. Based upon the information that we received from that, that will allow us to help target some different times. Although it is kind of sporadic, there was a block of time that it is more probable than not when the speeding is occurring. I didn't think it was an overdone when you look at the percentage of vehicles that are in violation or that are in the higher areas that would be deemed unreasonable by the court over in Nashua. We will be utilizing the motorcycle patrols because those vehicles I can tuck away a little bit better on a straightaway having a cruiser out there. It's a little bit harder for us to - we're more visible. When we're out there doing directed patrols, we're not getting anything much but hopefully the motorcycle unit will be able to make an impact. We are currently running a motorcycle school now because we need a few more people trained up in that. Sergeant Davis has been teaching another officer how. The other officer that was supposed to become a motorcycle officer had an injury at home and will not be able to ride. We're only going to have minimal people on motorcycles this year as it turns out. I just wanted to update the Board that we are continuing to work with them.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Police Dept. - Request to Apply for a Community Oriented Grant through Sam's Club

Chairman Coutu recognized Police Chief Jason Lavoie.

Chief Lavoie noted Sam's Club over the years and Walmart as well has given us a number of grants. Another opportunity has come up for us to apply for a grant for them. What we intend to use it for is the student backpack program within the School District. I believe most of you are familiar with that.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Morin, to authorize the Police Department to apply for a Community Oriented Grant through Sam's Club valued at between \$250 to \$5,000 to be used for the Backpack Program at the Hudson Schools, carried 4-0.

B. Police Dept. - Request to Advertise for a Part-Time Dispatcher

Chairman Coutu recognized Police Chief Jason Lavoie.

Thank you again. Chief Lavoie said I'm looking to hire. We've always had a difficult time in maintaining part-time employees in the dispatch area. It's been a struggle for many, many years for us. We have up to 40 hours that we are allowed to assign for the hire for part-time dispatchers. It's not number of positions, its hours. We have one dispatcher that worked part time that works 8 hours on Saturdays which leaves us 32 available hours. I am looking to try implementing something a little different with some restructuring of the dispatch area that will give us some better coverage. It will also give us a little bit less coverage on Sunday. What I'd like to do is hire one person at roughly 29.5 hours keeping it at that number. That will help me fill some voids during the day during call times. That's what I'd like to set out to do is some restructuring and hopefully because of the larger amount of hours instead of 8 here, 8 there, maybe I'll be more successful in finding somebody to fulfill that need.

Chairman Coutu asked are you looking for somebody that's flexible that could change their schedules in a moment's notice. They would have a set schedule. Chief Lavoie said yes.

Selectman Morin indicated you said it was going to drop you down on Sundays. I know Sundays is not busy but is that going to cause you - if you get a major incident type of thing. Chief Lavoie said I don't have a lot that happens on Sundays but yeah if you run into a problem, we're going to be down one dispatcher if we have multiple incidents going on. It's problematic but I don't have the staff otherwise to do it.

Selectman Morin asked is that going to be third shift that you're going to run short on. Chief Lavoie indicated days. The problem is on that third shift is I have no one else around if there is an emergency, I don't have anybody that could go in there and help. At least on day shift, the probability of having an officer that's available to go help at least for the time being to deal with the high call volume because they're working on reports or arrests, somebody in the station is more likely to occur than on late nights where I have less staff. That's my thought process. I'm not saying that this is a perfect solution but I think it's better than what we do have. It will also give me two people on late nights this restructuring of dispatch that I'm trying to do. I'll be assigning three people to the late night shift which will give me at least two people on all the time.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Martin, to approve the Hudson Police Department's request to advertise for a Part-Time Police Dispatcher at \$18.56 an hour for 29.5 hours per week, carried 4-0.

C. Tax Collector/Town Clerk - Permission to Advertise for an Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector Position

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Clerk/Tax Collector Patti Barry.

Good evening. Patti Barry stated Diane Morrissette has informed me that she is going to be retiring on August 17th. I'm here to ask to advertise for the position and have this new person come in starting July 1st. It would be overlapping seven weeks. The reason being the Department of Motor Vehicles requires all new hires to be employed for 30 days prior to going to motor vehicle training. They're required to go to a two day motor vehicle training and a one day boat training. During the 30 days that they're here, they are required to observe motor vehicle transactions so that they're supposedly prepared when they go and they're not allowed to do any motor vehicle transactions. It's also a State election year so we'll have an increase in voter registrations over the summer. This person will also have to attend Election Net training at the Secretary of State's office to learn the voter registration system. Summer months we also see an increase in marriage license applications. The new hire will have to learn the laws pertaining to granting marriage licenses and will also have to learn the State vital records system. It's also going to be tax season. We'll have an increase in tax payments.

For budgeting purposes, Ms. Barry stated I'll be able to cover the cost of the seven week overlap by replacing an employee at Step 8 of the union contract now with a new employee starting at Step 1. We are also going to be preparing for our town audit in August and we have scheduled vacations that we're going to have to cover for. My goal is to have the new employee here, trained, and ready to move into this position when Diane retires on August 17th so there's a seamless transition of positions.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Morin, to allow the Town Clerk/Tax Collector to advertise for a Full-Time Assistant Town Clerk/Collector position starting at \$16.14 per hour, carried 4-0.

D. Highway Dept. - Replacement of Sewer Pipe Camera System

Chairman Coutu recognized Road Agent Kevin Burns.

Good evening. Kevin Burns said we had \$75,000 approved in this upcoming budget out of the sewer utility account to purchase a replacement camera system. It's a camera that basically films all of our sewer pipes. You can see where we have infiltration or problems. It is our recommendation to use the HGAC National Purchasing System to buy a camera system from CUES, Inc. of Orlando, Florida. One of the benefits of going with CUES is our current system is a CUES so a lot of the parts will be compatible. If our new system if the crawler breaks, we'd be able to take our old crawler out of storage and continue working until we got the crawler fixed.

Steve Malizia mentioned you've also used the Houston-Galveston to purchase I believe trucks or other large equipment. So it's a consortium they go out nationally and negotiate the best price. What he's asking for is a waiver of our local bid to go use that bid which we've done for at least some of the big ticket equipment. Mr. Burns indicated we've done it for street sweepers. The Fire Department has done it for pumper truck. We did it for a brush chipper.

Chairman Coutu asked have any of you seen the sewer camera system in operation. If you get a chance take a look at it. You'll be amazed. This thing will find a leak somewhere in the pipeline. It just crawls around the sewer system and it will find a leak, or a clog, or things of that nature. It comes in handy at times.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to waive the competitive bidding requirements as outlined in Town Code 98-1(C) and to authorize the purchase through the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) bid list from CUES for a replacement sewer pipe camera system in the amount of \$74,000 as recommended by the Road Agent and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept delivery or make payment prior to July 1, 2018, carried 4-0.

E. Town Wide Paving Contract Extension

Chairman Coutu recognized Road Agent Kevin Burns.

Kevin Burns explained Brox Industries has agreed to extend their contract price with a little nudging for an additional two months into the next fiscal year. We're under contract with them right now until the end of June. They have agreed to extend it into July and August. Our price is phenomenal. We just have a great price. I think the good times are over on this one. They didn't want to extend this year so I don't think they're going to extend next year but I think we should take advantage of it this year. Nashua has almost a \$7 million contract went out and their prices are significantly higher than ours. I think we should take advantage of it.

Chairman Coutu asked we've benefitted by this amount for how many years Mr. Burns. Kevin Burns indicated five years. Chairman Coutu said with the uncertainty of oil prices from year to year which is the main component, we've been very fortunate to be able to get it at this price. I've had one person from another community ask me and I had to research it what we were paying for it. He said how you get it that cheap. We're very fortunate. I want to thank you for working with potential companies who would provide us and being able to get this same amount for the past five years although this time it's only for two months. We'll have everything done in two months won't me Mr. Burns. Mr. Burns said it's going to make for a busy July and August. Chairman Coutu said that's right we'll get it done so you don't have to extend anything into the fall for paving.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to extend the Town Wide Paving Contract with Brox Industries, Inc. for the paving season through September 1, 2018 (fiscal year 2019) which

includes: asphalt at \$67.48 per ton; reclaiming at \$1.36 per square yard; and cold planing at \$1.35 per square yard as recommended by the Road Agent and the Finance Director, carried 4-0.

Selectman Morin asked to make a comment if I could. Now that the warm weather is here, I hope I don't jinx it with no more snow, I appreciate what you and all your crews did during the winter. Again Hudson was much better than any of the surrounding towns with the roads and it's very much appreciated. If you could pass that on, I'd appreciate it. Kevin Burns thanked Selectman Morin and I'll tell everyone in the morning.

F. Request for Contract Negotiations - Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors Association

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia stated one of the first things we need to do is as you are all well aware I believe we have five labor contracts coming up this year for all five of our groups. For the Selectmen that are liaisons for example Police, Highway, or Fire there's a natural Selectman to be on the negotiating team. This unit, the Supervisor's unit and the Support unit because they're an amalgamation of different departments there's Fire, Police, Town Hall staff. We need to appoint a Selectman to the negotiating team for the first step we do. Typically because you all usually take one contract and three of you already have it, that one leaves Selectman McGrath and Selectman Routsis for the two contracts - Supervisors the other being the Support. I don't know if Selectman McGrath has a preference but someone needs to be appointed so that we can then begin the process of negotiations.

Selectman McGrath indicated I don't have a preference.

Steve Malizia noted we have support staff which typically I don't want to demean is the secretarial. It's a lot of the staff in this building. It crosses various departments. Then this one has Police Captains, Deputy Fire Chiefs, Town Engineer. It has quite a range of people in it so someone needs to be appointed. That's what I'm asking for.

Selectman Martin asked Selectman McGrath you don't have a preference.

Selectman McGrath said I do not have a preference.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to appoint Selectman McGrath as the Selectmen member of the Town's negotiating team for the Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors Association successor contract negotiations, carried 4-0.

G. Proposal for Legal Services 2019

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia stated you have a proposal it's on the back side of my memo from our current town attorney, Attorney Lefevre. Attorney Lefevre has provided us legal service for the last three fiscal years this being the third. We had a two-year contract. He graciously offered to extend his contract at no increase in cost for this year we're in now. He's offering to do the same for next year. I believe we're getting a pretty good deal with Attorney Lefevre. Last year we spent \$86,000. Our legal bills have been declined and I think a couple of things factor in. One - we're a little bit less litigious but I think Attorney Lefevre is very focused. He sticks to the task at hand. We're paying \$10 to \$20 less per hour by utilizing him. My recommendation is to continue to utilize him for the next fiscal year. I just think we're getting a great deal.

Selectman McGrath commented we're well served by Attorney Lefevre.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to enter into a contract for legal services with the law firm of Tarbell & Brodich, PA, for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 for the terms as specified in the Proposal for Legal Services 2018-2019 letter as prepared by Attorney David Lefevre, carried 4-0.

H. Sale of Town Property - Map 111, Lot 019 and Map 111, Lot 017 - 149 and 151 Robinson Road

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia explained these parcels came to our attention that were tax deeded sometime in the '70s. I believe Selectman Coutu had inquiries. We've researched the parcels. They had some title issues. Quite frankly records were sloppy back in the day and the title wasn't clear. I had Attorney Lefevre clear the titles. He's been through court. We have marketable titles. What does that mean? That means it is easier to sell these properties.

Mr. Malizia said we've had issues in the past as some of you are probably aware that we've had difficulties closing on certain real estate. These are two vacant parcels. They're on Robinson Road. They both appear to be buildable. When I say buildable, it's not us to determine but looking at them, I had Elvis the Town Engineer look at them. I had George and Bruce drive out and look at them. They appear to be buildable. The point is that they probably have market value. To that effect, I've also asked Lisa DiBernardo of DiBernardo Real Estate who's represented the town on probably two dozen vacant land parcels to put together a value for us. In this packet, you'll see that her recommendation is the parcel at 151 Robinson would be \$85,900 listing price and the parcel at 149 Robinson would be a listing price of \$91,800 mainly because it is slightly bigger. If the Board is interested in selling these parcels, I would recommend that we contract with DiBernardo Real Estate to market these properties. Again she's done an excellent job for us. She charges a 4 ½ percent commission. She a co-broke which means if somebody else comes in she splits the commission. I think she's done an excellent job for us for the other vacant land town parcels we've had and some of the other tax deeded properties. If the Board wishes to sell that, I could get this process going as soon as tomorrow.

Chairman Coutu noted it was a lucky find. Steve Malizia said they are surplus to our needs too. I like to mention that. Their titles weren't clear and they are now clear in the courts. If someone buys it, they'll be able to close on a transaction. Chairman Coutu noted Attorney Lefevre did a good job.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Martin, to sell Town owned tax deeded property located at Map 111, Lot 019, 149 Robinson Road for a listing price of \$91,800 and Map 111, Lot 017, 151 Robinson Road for a listing price of \$85,900 and to hire DiBernardo Real Estate for the sale of these properties

Chairman Coutu said based on what I've seen in these properties and I've looked at them for over a year now, we could conceivably have a bidding war on these properties. This is a nice section of Robinson Road.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

Selectman Morin said while we're on the subject of town-owned land, Conservation Commission has been working very hard on the Rangers Drive project. With some things that they are looking into is there any possibility we can extend their time before they come back in front of us? Chairman Coutu said it's up to the Board what we want to do. I've heard enough of this. I don't know what more they want. Selectman Morin said they're doing some appraisals and some other things. Steve Malizia indicated it's been pending to the 22nd of May. Selectman Morin said they asked for a pass if that was possible if the Board would agree to it. Chairman Coutu said no rush to sell it. It's up to the majority of the Board. What is the wish of the Board? I have no objection.

Selectman Morin asked do we want to set a time limit or just let them come back. I understand and they understand that we can't drag this on forever but they would like some time. Like I said, they were looking for some appraisals that would take maybe up to six months.

Steve Malizia said the transaction if we were to have any kind of transaction wouldn't close this fiscal year. In other words if I think about what you're saying even if you gave him to June even if you put it on the

market, you're not going to sell and close until next fiscal year. That's just one little factor of it. If you extended it...Selectman Morin asked would everybody be agreeable to the first meeting in October. That's six months.

Selectman McGrath said you're going to have to fill me in on what the Conservation Commission is doing because I don't watch those meetings. Selectman Morin explained they would like to use that Rangers Drive land as further conservation land for the Town of Hudson. We had a meeting with them. The town cannot transfer funds from the Conservation Commission to the Town of Hudson because we're the same entity. The town would have to give them the land because we already own it or someone outside of the town would have to purchase it and make the donation of the land. Right now they're trying to get appropriate appraisals and as much information to make a presentation to the Board to see if we were going to go through with selling it or if we were going to make it as a piece of conservation land. They need some time because there's a lot of loose ends that they have to tie up and some actual appraisals that they have to get.

Selectman McGrath said that's understandable but in excess of \$1 million that they have in the conservation account to purchase conservation land, what happens to that? Does that get transferred to a different line item within the budget so that this Board has access to that or is it essentially just foregoing selling the property and donating it as conservation land? That's really the clarity of it.

Selectman Morin said that's pretty much how it has to be. The town has to just turn it over to conservation. There will be no funds exchanged within the town because we're the same entity. They're a board of this town.

Steve Malizia indicated I did get some guidance from Attorney Lefevre. I thought I sent it out. I'm not so sure that is necessarily the case. I am not aware that there is a prohibition on us doing that, i.e. they could pay us. Selectman Morin said they had different information. That's something else that we need to get clarity on. Mr. Malizia said I'm sure I could get six other attorneys to give me six other opinions but basically from what I understand from our attorney because I did ask questions particularly after that last meeting, it's my understanding that I don't think there's an out and out prohibition against doing that. What you're attempting to do or what you would potentially be attempting to do is keep the taxpayer whole. This is the taxpayer asset. It was a tax deeded property. Conservation is a wonderful thing I'm not disputing it but this is also a taxpayer asset that if you have \$1.2 million in an account over here, you might have a mechanism to keep the taxpayer whole and then preserve the land in conservation. I didn't see an out and out prohibition. Attorney Lefevre also stated that I believe they would have to have a public hearing because they can spend the money but you have to approve the purchase any conservation land. I don't know which direction you all want to go but Attorney Lefevre has a different take on that and did not see an out and out prohibition of us paying. Think about it this way, you're trying to keep the taxpayers whole. All the taxpayers.

Selectman Morin said I will make sure that we thoroughly investigate that and have the proper answer.

Selectman McGrath stated the legal opinion will come from Attorney Lefevre as opposed to someone else that the Conservation Commission may want to hire. We just approved Mr. Lefevre's contract and he continues to work on behalf of the town as a whole.

Steve Malizia said that is correct as a whole. They the Conservation though can go out and pay for appraisals out of their own funds certainly but it would seem contradictory to get different attorneys involved on their side. We are the same entity. Selectman McGrath noted that's why I'm making the point that it's going to be Attorney Lefevre that's going to render an opinion. Mr. Malizia said he has given guidance which I have a copy of. I'll send it to you if you didn't already see something.

With that being said, Selectman McGrath didn't object to extending the time limit but it should be made clear to the Conservation Commission members that this isn't just going to be a donation to the Conservation Commission. They've got enough funds in their budget that they should be able to cover the costs if we decide to go that way and not sell the property. If they wanted to buy it that the taxpayers are going to be made whole for that property as opposed to just a donation where we don't sell the property

but the Conservation Commission gets to keep in excess of \$1 million to buy something else some other time.

Selectman Morin said that was much pretty much made clear until this issue where they had talked about it last week that they had found some information from the State conservation that they couldn't transfer funds within the town but I will make sure that we have a direct answer when we have our next meeting. I'll take the information the Town Administrator has received and we move forward on that.

Chairman Coutu said from my personal perspective and observation - you're there at the meetings all the time - there are too many people with their fingers in the pie right now. Everybody is going helter skelter trying to get information and its all coming back helter skelter where we're just not getting a straight answer. They need to address one person to do this research and they should certainly talk to our attorney first of all.

To make another point, Selectman McGrath said I don't know who we have on the - I know some of the members on the Conservation Commission - but I think this Board just appointed someone from Rangers Drive to the Board if I'm not mistaken. I wasn't here. If that's the case and they've made statements in public that they're in favor of that and they would benefit from the town's purchase of that property for them, they need to consider their ethical standing and not participate in those votes if they do serve on that board.

Chairman Coutu said I agree Selectman McGrath and I was going to call the State ethics board because I believe almost unanimously they have all said that they supported the sale of land and I think that is quite unethical to be involved in the hearing process once you've stated your position. You haven't given any of the other citizens of this town - we're talking two streets over there Roy and Rangers. All of the taxpayers have paid the taxes on that property because they haven't been paid. It affects the whole town not just two streets. There's an impact in value that the taxpayer should get back monies that we could use to help offset the tax rate as a result of being able to realize some income from a property that otherwise we haven't realized. To have somebody come here when we first began discussing this from the Conservation Commission representing that they were speaking on behalf of the Conservation Commission. If we want to dig up the tapes we can and saying we should convert this to conservation land. No hearings were held. No discussions were had and here it is this man saying that he represents the Conservation Commission and then later on the Conservation Commission said he wasn't speaking on their behalf. Individually they started saying they supported converting this land. You can lie in that direction but you're supposed to hear everybody out before you make a decision.

Selectman Morin indicated your comments were addressed at the following Conservation Commission on what took place in that member. As I had stated to the committee when I had a meeting with them, what this looks like is they had a group of citizens coming forward and the Conservation Commission jumped on board. Instead it should have been the other way around. The other night you had the people that you had here from the committee due to the fact that the Chairman was unavailable to attend. So he had appointed a few people to speak if needed. I will make sure and reiterate that the Chairman needs to be the contact to us for future and when we move forward and they have until the first meeting in October and that will be the extent of the time period.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to extend the timeline for Rangers Drive for potential sale of Rangers Drive through October 9, 2018.

Selectman McGrath said this isn't to pile onto the Conservation Commission as far as ethics. That goes without saying for every board in town. If you feel that there's a perception of a conflict, it's your duty to step down. It just so happens that we've had a couple of statements that have been made and it pertains to this property Rangers Drive and it just needs to be made clear. I encourage and I like to see new people apply for positions on the boards because it shows that they have a concern about their town and that they want to participate and do what they can to help. That doesn't mean that you help yourself at the same time. You need to consider that when applying for these positions. I don't want to discourage anyone but at the same time ethics takes a priority over everything else. If you can't do that then I don't think you should participate.

For the record, Chairman Coutu told Selectman McGrath tonight we had an application for the Conservation Commission. The candidate wasn't here. That would have been the one. Selectman McGrath noted I saw that and that actually caused me to have a concern.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

Donna Graham interrupted and asked can we go back to agenda "New Business 8.C." Can we amend that motion to specify where the funds are coming from? Chairman Coutu noted out of the taxpayer's pockets. More specifically, Steve Malizia said the Town Poor Account was what I would recommend which is account 5151. That has a healthy balance remaining. Motion made by Selectman Morin to amend and seconded by Selectman McGrath.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Martin - I had the opportunity to go to the Municipal Utility Committee because I guess somebody misread the liaison assignment and they sent me the packet. I went there and quite frankly I enjoyed it not being on TV and they do conduct their business and conduct it very well. They're a well-oiled machine.

Selectman Martin indicated I went to the Planning Board meeting and that was something to be talked about for the future. Other than that, I don't have anything else.

Selectman Morin - I have nothing tonight.

Selectman McGrath - I have nothing further.

Selectman Coutu - Just three things and I'll make it quick. First of all I want to congratulate Matthew Steven Sojka. He earned the highest honor at the Court of Honor for the Boy Scouts which is an Eagle Scout badge. I was there representing the Town. Selectman Morin was there. Steve's project was that he noticed I think while they were volunteering at the food bank that some of the shelving in the food bank had deteriorated to the point where it was metal and rotting. He decided that his project would be, and he got approval from his Council, to rebuild shelves down at the food bank. I know Dave you're a neighbor of the church and the basement where all the food is stored. I know you're in and out of there a lot not for the food but to help. I thought it was honorable. I've known Matt for many years. I know that I said to him I remember when I first met him was at the Community Center. This little kid comes up to me. His dad shoved him over to me and I knew his dad Steve. He came over and said hi Mr. Coutu. I said hi how are you. He said good do you want to buy a Christmas wreath from me. I'm with the Boy Scouts. He became my Christmas wreath provider every year. He's grown into such an outstanding kid. It's the first time I've gone and given a speech at a Court of Honor that I couldn't find anything negative to say about the kid. I was flabbergasted and that's what stood out was that this kid is exemplary not that the other Eagle Scouts weren't. He was just above and beyond. Do you want to add anything to that?

Selectman Morin said no like you said they have a part where you actually roast the Eagle Scout and there was not one person that got up to speak had any bad words. He is a very good kid.

Another thing, Chairman Coutu stated Selectman Morin and I were invited to represent the Board of Selectmen at a discussion to be held with the Library Board of Trustees, the School Board, and the Budget Committee. We met across the street. The purpose of the meeting was to put together some ideas of how we could better utilize the Hills Library. We came up with a couple of ideas on how we could potentially maintain the building at no cost to the taxpayer. If you want to add to that Selectman Morin without getting into too many specifics because nothing was cast in stone.

Selectman Morin said there were a lot of good ideas by all the boards coming together. The Library Trustees are moving forward. I know they've already started with a few of the things to look for some type of program to get it moving. Hopefully by budget season we'll have something to show which will make it an easier process when we discuss the building this year. It was good to see all the boards sit down and

talk and actually come up with a positive step to move forward with something. That in itself was worthwhile all the boards getting together.

Chairman Coutu said one of the things we commented on in the past was that we heard the voters loud and clear that we need to start working together. We've had several meetings with different boards up until now. It's ongoing. We're going to make it all inclusive and we're going to make it work. We came up with some great ideas for fundraising. We all had discussion about different ideas on how we can raise large chunks of money easily and probably set up a revolving fund like Community TV operates. The seniors operate on a revolving fund for their trips. They can spend money but money is always rotating into the account from other sources other than taxpayers. When we presented that idea to them, I think they were very receptive and I think that's one of the routes they're explore. We're going to have probably at least one more meeting before we finalize the way that it should go and it will be a joint decision and not just our decision. We'll let them come back with their final decision and then we'll all vote on it.

Chairman Coutu noted we had a joint meeting as well with the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Would you like to pick up on that a little bit.

Selectman Morin said that was basically a workshop because those boards work so close together and there were questions. What we did was ask the members of both boards to forward ahead of time some questions and some issues that we need to look into. There was a lot of good conversation. I'm glad that you talked to Mr. Brackett because I was actually going to ask to defer that tonight because my opinion after I saw that resignation was maybe the reason for the procedure that we were going to come up with really isn't going to affect the two boards. They need to stay independent and have their own process. It was more for a procedure for the office to get the information and help the customer better. I don't know if we got that out there enough for the two boards to understand. I appreciate you doing that because I was going to ask to defer that tonight so we could talk a little bit more. Chairman Coutu said he's a friend I had to reach out to him and find out what happened. I'll talk to you privately about that. He's going to stay on it. That pleased me.

The only other thing Chairman Coutu wanted to say is I noticed today was out and about the past couple of days. There's a lot of kids out there on their bicycles after school. I'm going to ask the public please I can't tell you how many cars that are going through red lights in this town. You can't have a police officer on every corner every hour of the day. Please be mindful that there are young children out there on their bicycles. They're going to be out more and more as the weather gets better. Next week we may have a couple of days that might reach in the 80s. Tomorrow we'll be dealing with a day of rain so I don't think there will be too many out on a bike. Please be mindful that young people are out there. Drive safely. Drive cautiously. Drive the way you would if you were near your house and your children were out in the street how you would want people to drive by your house.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to enter nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee; (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; and (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with any body or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph, carried 4-0 by roll call.

Chairman Coutu entered Nonpublic Session at 8:12 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 at 8:42 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to hire Paige Tierney as a Full-Time Telecommunications Technician with a starting salary of \$18.56 per hour effective May 6, 2018 in accordance with the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract, carried 4-0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, carried 4-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

Roger E. Coutu, Chairman

David S. Morin, Vice-Chairman

Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

Normand G. Martin, Selectman