

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the May 8, 2018 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Coutu the meeting of May 8, 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, David Morin, Marilyn McGrath, Angela Routsis, Normand Martin

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Kathy Carpentier, Finance Director; Linda Kipnes, Sustainability Cte Chairman

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

Jennifer Parkhurst - 21 Roy Drive

Chairman Coutu indicated this is not the first time we hear from you because you've been here before us before. Please tell the Board why you're interested in serving on the Conservation Commission and what you think you can add to benefit us as citizens of the town.

Jennifer Parkhurst stated I want to on a personal note I grew up kind of in a family in my home town in Massachusetts that was very involved in the community, very involved in open space and the Conservation Commission there. I always felt kind of close to that. Other than the personal passion, I'm currently a teacher. I teach government/civics and I tell and preach the walk to my students about participating in government and being involved. I have been a hypocrite and I really want to take this as an opportunity to be involved in my town and step up and do my responsibility. I think that this Commission would be a great place for me to start because I do feel very passionately about it. What I think I could contribute is before I was a teacher I worked in the corporate world. I was an analyst. I'm very detailed minded. I know how to speak with people and I know how to find the issues that are important.

For the Conservation Commission, Ms. Parkhurst knows that my job is to protect and maintain the land and the space in our town, to give recommendations to people like yourself and the Zoning and Planning Boards, and really be kind of on watch for our town when it comes to conservation and protecting our spaces and our wetlands. I really feel that my experience could be invaluable to that and I would love to do my part to help encourage the existing Commission to kind of move on the things that are important and be there to offer my skills to help them do that.

Chairman Coutu said you certainly exhibited passion each time you've spoken before us. I understand your passion. Any members of the Board have any questions or comments?

Selectman McGrath indicated I have a couple of questions. Just noticed on your application you've got a Massachusetts number. Is there a reason for that? Ms. Parkhurst thought it's just my mobile number. I'm from Massachusetts. I was born and raised. Selectman McGrath said it just jumped right out. But you are a resident of Hudson. Ms. Parkhurst said yes.

Selectman McGrath said the other question I know that you've been active with Rangers Drive project for your neighborhood. How would you treat that as a member of the Conservation Commission? Jennifer Parkhurst understood I have to kind of put my bias at the door. I have to first serve the board and what the purposes of the board are. I think that if that were to come into question as an alternate I wouldn't necessarily be guaranteed a vote. Obviously if there was a problem, a conflict with a vote and I was able to vote that night on something, then I would need to make sure that I'm following the rules there and if there's a conflict that I have to recuse myself on I would certainly obey whatever the rules of the land are. On a note, I think I'm able to kind of professionally put my personal preferences aside and make sure that I'm voting or speaking on the board for the board's interests as a member and not that of somebody that lives on Roy Drive. Selectman McGrath noted and the board's interest or the town's interest. Just to be clear, you would step down on any vote or activity for Rangers Drive? Jennifer Parkhurst said I would if that were the rule and there was a clear conflict of interest, absolutely.

Selectman McGrath said you determine your own conflicts of interest. If you have an interest in that and you have a preconceived idea of how the vote should go or how the board should act, that to me is a conflict. I just want to make sure that we don't - I'm glad to see people coming out and wanting to serve on that board or any other board but ethical behavior is to me paramount whether it's that board, the Planning Board, the Zoning Board because other people that are viewing that meeting or participating in that meeting, they want to be sure that the person that's acting is acting on the best interests of the town and not their own personal interests. Ms. Parkhurst said yes I hear you. I think it's something to be very careful about and I'm sure that there's been some precedents in the past with Conservation Commission members. I'm all ears to that. If there is something where it's too uncomfortable for me to be involved in, then I certainly would recuse myself but ultimately I understand. I'm there to represent the town and the town's interests. I guess we'll cross that bridge if it gets to that point yes.

Chairman Coutu had a question for Selectman Martin. As a former member and Chair of the ZBA, I noticed on a couple of occasions you stepping down. From your perspective - because I raised this point with her about potential conflict of interest and I've since had a discussion with the Town Administrator - would you recuse yourself in a situation like that? Selectman Martin stated absolutely especially being an abutter. In the area where I did step down, I knew the person applying. I didn't have any interest in it but to take the perception away, I stepped down because I know the person that was applying. Chairman Coutu noted the key word here is "perception". Regardless of which way you go, they're going to point the finger and say I know why she voted that way on that particular issue. You have to weigh very carefully is my participation. How is my participation going to be perceived by the general public? Does it show a bias? I raised the same question Selectman McGrath as you. The conversation I've had with you and we received a communication about you. You're well respected and well liked. Like I said to you, I think you're going to be a tremendous asset to the Board. We're not trying to silence you. We just want you to be aware especially where you conduct civic classes that perception is key with the general public.

Selectman McGrath had a couple of comments. I served as the Chairman of the Planning Board at one time for a number of years. I've served on the Planning Board, the Zoning Board, Conservation Commission over the years and what caused me to get involved was that there were serious issues of impropriety that was taking place among particularly planning and zoning at the time. This was a number of years ago. It's so egregious and it's when that happens and so it causes everyone to question the ethics and the impartiality of every member of the board. I've always taken the position that even though I may know in my heart that I don't have a conflict if someone thinks that I do, I'd much rather step away, sit in the back of the audience. I've even left the room at times so that there wasn't any question of me sitting in the back of the room and trying to make contact with other members and try to persuade them in one way or another. For me, it's something critical that everybody has to keep in mind. People can be sitting up in the back of the audience and you don't know who they are. You don't know what their thought process is and if they see something that they don't like, it causes a problem for everybody. I'm happy to put you on Conservation but I want you to keep that in mind because it not only affects all of the other board members but more importantly it affects you and whether or not people think that you're ethical and whether or not you can do it in an ethical manner.

Jennifer Parkhurst said I absolutely agree with you and I just want to make it clear that for me this is a long-term thing. I want to be here for the long run. Chairman Coutu said we're going to hold you to that.

Ms. Parkhurst said my dad would be ashamed of me if I didn't. It's really important to me to do that and be in here for a while. In the short term kind of thinking, I think you're absolutely right. It's important that I respect the ethics of the town and myself as I build my name here. Selectman McGrath thanked Ms. Parkhurst for applying but I felt compelled to bring that up.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Jennifer Parkhurst as an alternate to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire 12/31/2020, carried 5-0.

Chairman Coutu said something I overlook and I'll do it now. We'll open this up to public input. Does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time? Seeing none, we'll close public input and we'll move onto consent items.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Coutu asked does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration. Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion.

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

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Elderly Exemption - Map 229, Lot 016 - 12 Ridgecrest Drive; Map 211, Lot 045 - 1 Wildwood Terrace; Map 198, Lot 166 - 2 Cape Drive; Map 149, Lot 001, Sub 042 -6 Glasgow Circle, w/recommendation to grant
- 2) Tax Deferral - Map 145, Lot 011, Sub 002 - 12 Sullivan Road, w/recommendation to grant
- 3) Tax Deferral - Map 175, Lots 057 and 059 - Lakeside Avenue and 13 Iris Path, w/recommendation to grant
- 4) 2018 Jeopardy Assessment Tax Warrant - Map 198, Lot 14 - 97 Lowell Road, w/recommendation to approve
- 5) Gravel Tax Warrant - Map 122, Lot 002; Map 150, Lot 013; Map 141, Lot 001; Map 140, Lot 001; Map 190-191, w/recommendation to grant and sign
- 6) Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed/Timber Warrant - Map 201, Lot 005, w/recommendation to grant and sign

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Raffle Permit - Hudson Historical Society
- 2) Raffle Permit - Hudson Historical Society
- 3) Request to Solicit Funds - Knights of Columbus
- 4) Outdoor Gathering Permit - Hudson Historical Society
- 5) Brox Night Trucking Permit
- 6) Readoption of Fund Balance Policy
- 7) Readoption of Investment Policy

D. Donations - None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the April 24, 2018 Meeting

F. Calendar

05/09 7:00 Planning Bd - Buxton CD Meeting Room
05/09 7:00 Budget Cte - Hills Memorial Library
05/10 7:00 Zoning Bd 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
05/21 7:00 Sustainability Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room
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 Bd - Buxton CD Meeting Room
05/24 7:00 Zoning Bd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room
05/28 Memorial Day - TOWN HALL CLOSED

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on April 24, 2018

- 1) *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.*
- 2) *Motion to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, carried 4-0.*

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Sustainability Committee - Discussion relative to Solarize Plus

Chairman Coutu recognized Chairman Linda Kipnes.

I'm Linda Kipnes, 23 Nathaniel Drive. The name of the program is Solarize Plus. We have a chance to participate in the Solarize Plus campaign that Nashua Environment and Energy Committee is starting up. It's an especially useful campaign because it's not only offering solar installations but also other kinds of weatherization. The way a solarized campaign works is the committees will be doing outreach to residents and to businesses. Anybody who is interested in a solar installation or in doing any kind of weatherization in their home can participate. They would contact us. They would have an energy audit if they wanted one from one of the installers and the more people who sign up in the time period, the bigger the discount there will be. I don't have the numbers right now but the people who bid on this and who were winners specified particular discounts for numbers of participants. The campaign will go on starting right now very soon until probably the end of August. The goal that the Nashua group has set is 100 solar installations and 100 other energy efficiency projects. So it will be open to any resident, any building owner or business owner who wants to do either solar or some kind of weatherization. Anybody who signs a contract with the chosen installers between now and the end of August will be participating in the campaign. They will know what the terms are as far as discounts depending on how many people sign up.

Ms. Kipnes said the installers have been chosen and I can tell you who they are if you would like to know. For solar installations, Ms. Kipnes said they chose Granite State Solar and for weatherizations - Turn Cycle Solutions. The Nashua energy committee send out RFPs and received a number of replies and those were the two that they chose as offering the best participation in the campaign. What the Sustainability would be doing is outreach, advertising, sponsoring events, having people meet with the installers, facilitating meetings and the dissemination of information, and hopefully getting enough people so that the people participating would get a good deal.

Chairman Coutu had two questions. We're joining with Nashua as part of a small co-op. Linda said yes. Chairman Coutu said number two, do you know if the organization in Nashua their conservation commission vetted these two companies. Linda said I assume so yes. The RFPs were sent out through the business office of the Nashua City that normally sends out RFPs and they reviewed them. They had 3 or 4 people who are knowledgeable in the area vet the companies and chose. Chairman Coutu said for me the cheapest is not always the best. You're better off vetting them. Ms. Kipnes hadn't seen any of the money part of it so I don't know - I have seen the RFP and it's on line. It's available to be seen. If they met all the criteria of the RFP, then they would be providing a good service to people who are participating.

Selectman Routsis asked do you know if there's a cost for the weatherization quote. Ms. Kipnes didn't know. One of the things that the installers committed to do is energy audits on people's homes. I think they specified there could be a small fee for that but I don't know whether they offered it with a fee or not. I have not seen the final. Selectman Routsis said for me personally I think I'd want to know if there is a fee associated with it or not because I know through I believe it's Eversource you're able to do some type of energy audit but I there is believe it's a \$100 upfront fee for it. Linda Kipnes said this is just starting. They just picked the installers a week or two ago and they're just starting to get ramped up with advertising and there is a website that there's a little bit of information on but it's really just starting. All of that information will be available on line and as part of our outreach to people in advertising and in events that people can come to. I hope we can get the installers to come a couple of times and meet with people at various places in town. All of that will be available and people will know up front what the costs will be and what the possible discounts are.

Chairman Coutu asked is your purpose in coming here to see whether or not we endorse the concept of joining with Nashua. Linda Kipnes said yes. Chairman Coutu thought that was fair. Anything that can save our homeowner money I'm all for. It's a personal decision whether or not a person wants to put solar and have an energy audit done. Ms. Kipnes said it explicitly says in RFP and in other materials if people are looking at solar, this can be one option but they're certainly free to look at any other solar installer they want to look at also. The idea is if you get enough people then they do all the installations at once. I think the deadline will be probably toward the end of August and they're start the installations in September. If they do them all, they buy all the supplies. They bring in the workers. They do it all house to house to house all in the same area and it's cheaper for them to do that.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to allow Linda Kipnes on behalf of the Sustainability Committee to join with Nashua on the Solarize+ program, carried 5-0.

Chairman Coutu said I can't thank you enough for everything you do for our town. Linda Kipnes said to watch for advertising and talk to your friends. The more people who join, the better the deals will be. That's the idea.

Selectman Routsis asked when you have the finalized information could you e-mail it to us. Ms. Kipnes said I can give you the website and the stuff will be on there. I can tell you right now: www.liveablenashua.org/nashua/solarize/campaign.

Chairman Coutu asked please advise the member of the group if they want to use our community television to promote the idea that they're welcome to do so. It's public access. Ms. Kipnes thought maybe we could get some of the installers to come and they could tape a show and keep showing it or something. Thank you all.

B. Bid Recommendation - Construction Services for Stand-By Generator

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. About 2 ½ years ago we started doing a full assessment of all of our water utility facilities that we have out there. One of those projects identified was removal of a standby motor at our well facilities and replacing the whole station with a standby generator. That wasn't the standard back in the '80s when this well was put in. Last year we were fortunate to do Weinstein and this year we're shooting to do Dame the last set. We went out to bid. We were fortunate

we got four bids for this. They varied from 167 to 179. We budgeted about 100 for this one. Unfortunately the reason you see the significant increase from what we budgeted for is that the previous White House administration passed emission controls for any generator beyond a certain size. In our case it's 200. Basically skyrocketed the cost of the motor going into this particular generator. To give you a difference of what we're looking at, last year we budgeted \$167,000 for a 150 kilowatt generator at Weinstein and we ended up spending about \$68,000. We were hoping that just the generator is a little bit slightly bigger than the one we use will be under 100 and those numbers came at 167 to 179.

With that being said, Mr. Dhima indicated my recommendation to the Board and the Finance Director's recommendation would be to approve this contract to Brian Mason Electric out of Hudson, NH, the low bidder.

Chairman Coutu stated Mr. Dhima you said the lowest bid we see it here in front of us \$167,645. You said we only have \$100,000 appropriated for this. Mr. Dhima said we had \$100,000 estimated for this particular project yes. Chairman Coutu asked that what was put in the budget \$100,000. Line item 4335-5593-401 has enough money to cover the \$167,645? Elvis Dhima said we have under that item \$350,000...I don't have that in front of me. I know that the overall budget for the water will handle it because we're saving money on other water projects that we have out there and it will be outlined on the next items. To answer your question Mr. Chairman for this particular project no but for the overall picture yes we can and that's what I would recommend. If we didn't, I wouldn't bring it to you.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Martin, to award the bid for construction services for a stand-by generator at the Dame/Ducharme Well to Brian Mason Electric LLC, the lowest bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$167,645 with funds from the Water Supply Large Operating Equipment Account (5593-401) as recommended by the Town Engineer and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept delivery or make payment prior to July 1, 2018, carried 5-0.

C. Bid Recommendation - Design Build Sullivan Road Vault & Valve

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Elvis Dhima stated as you know we wield water for the Pennichuck customers in Londonderry, Windham and Pelham. Basically the way we do that is through the cross connections that we have between different towns - Hudson, Londonderry, Windham or Pelham. At these locations at the border location, there is a vault within this fault there is basically a meter that basically allows us to do know what water we're getting to these communities or what water we're getting back. In our case, in Litchfield as well. That's basically what a vault valve is basically our cross connection to our communities - Londonderry, Pelham, and Litchfield as well.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Martin, to award the bid for design and construction services for the Sullivan Road Vault and Valve to Weston and Sampson, the only bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$123,800 with funds from the Water Operations, Large Operating Equipment Account (5592-401) as recommended by the Town Engineer and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept delivery or make payment prior to July 1, 2018, carried 5-0.

D. Bid Recommendation - Design Build Sagamore Pump Station Upgrade

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Elvis Dhima said last year we started assessing our sewer facilities. The first one was the industrial pump station. It was successfully completed last week. It's being tested this week. This year for FY19 we put aside \$315,000 to update our biggest sewer pump station which is the Sagamore. We went out to bid. We advertised and we got two bids. The lowest one is 191. The other one is 226. We budgeted 315 for it. With that said, I'm here in front of you to ask to award to the contract to the low bidder as recommended by the Finance Director and myself.

Chairman Coutu had one comment. I am surprised that Weston & Sampson got out bided. Have you done work in the past with Interstate Water? Elvis Dhima said we asked obviously the people. The answer you get from the reference is always they're great. We always go around and ask people that they don't put references down. They're capable. They're just a smaller operation than Weston & Sampson. They're capable of doing the work they just don't have the purchasing department and all the resources to put a better and fancy report out there. They were pretty close taking into consideration what they were dealing with. I felt comfortable with them. They seem to be knowledgeable. It's just good competition. The open it's great for us. We save \$35,000. Chairman Coutu said it's good. We saved \$35,000 of the other one were the only bidder.

Selectman McGrath had a couple of questions. Talk in the project approach that they prepared and you marked up. I read that and I was questioning the pump system curve for the proposed pumps. They're going to define that or insure that they're using the right design points before they determine whether or not the pump is adequate. Can you explain that? Mr. Dhima said this approach is a design build. Instead of us designing it and then going out to bid, we're basically asking the consultant/contract in this case to basically do the assessment of the pump that's already there, what we need which is usually about the same size just more efficient, and making sure that in case we need a bigger pump that needs to be assessed right there and then. That's based on the flows we provide for them. We have instruments that allow us to see what push through that system every day. So we provide that information to them and they go basically back six months a year, we see what our needs are, what our future needs might be and based on that they figure out what the proper size for the pump is.

Mr. Dhima explained typically in this case because we're seeing a reduction in water use in the industrial park, it's typically the same pump size but much better, much smaller, and way more efficient than it used to be. This particular one was done in 1986 in this case. It's just over 30 years old. We just need to put the next generation of pumps. For an industrial pump, we went through the same exercise. We had to evaluate what pumps are we putting in? Do we need bigger ones? Are the same size ones adequate? It just happens that it's the same size it's just more efficient. They run less. They burn less electricity and that's kind of what it comes down to. This contract will go through the same exercise. We want to make sure that the pump it's going to put in is going to handle our current use and future needs and that's what that curb and everything that goes with it. There's engineering involved with this before we get into construction.

After they go through that design, Selectman McGrath said if they come up with a different size pump that's needed have they already looked at the next size up that might actually perform what needs to be done and if so have they determined what the costs would be. Mr. Dhima said it would be part of the design build. Basically this is a lump sum. If we need the next higher up pump, it's basically still 181. That's it. They're locked in for the design build. They did some homework to do that. They looked at it but now they're going to get into the actual design itself. It's going to have to go through DES as well to make sure they're okay with it, the State, we look at it, Highway - Sewer Division looks at it and makes sure we're on the same page and then they basically move on to the purchasing the pump which takes a while. That's all built into it.

With regard to the pump itself, Chairman Coutu recognized that it might be more efficient. In the housing of the pump we still have our generator and our electrical circuits obviously so if anything shuts down, this generator is going to be sufficient to handle the pump? They're going to make the reconnect with the new pump? Elvis Dhima explained there is an existing generator for this side for this sewer facility and that will be utilized if the power goes out and we put a bypass in, we'll be utilizing that. Basically the way they set this up we did a similar one. It's to hook up the standby motors while they repair while they do the sewer. The sewer work or the removal of the existing pumps and installation of the new ones takes about three weeks. Before they do that, they set up a standby system. There is an electrical motor that basically is fed through the existing panel that we have in place and if the power goes out, the generator goes on. In case that fails, there's actually a diesel pump a second one stand by in case that original one fails. That's basically what supports the system while they do the work. Chairman Coutu said it will be similar to solving the problem we had initially up by Benson Park on top of the hill. Mr. Dhima said that was water. This is sewer and that was water. Chairman Coutu said the function is the same basically. Mr. Dhima

said exactly. So if the power goes out, the generator will be kicking in over there. Sewer was set up a little bit better than the water was basically but yes that will be utilized.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Martin, to award the bid design and construction services for the Sagamore Pump Station upgrade to Interstate Water and Wastewater Specialists LLC, the lowest bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$191,000 with funds from the Sewer Capital Projects, Pump Station Construction Account (5564-608) as recommended by the Town Engineer, the Road Agent, and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept delivery or make payment prior to July 1, 2018, carried 5-0.

E. Bid Recommendation - Engineering Services for 2 Million Gallons Per Day Treatment Facility Assessment

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Mr. Dhima noted we'll be switching back to water now again. Basically there's been multiple discussions about the possibility of the Town of Hudson having their own water treatment facility. We're very fortunate that the town owns property adjacent to the Merrimack River. Basically we want to do a financial assessment of is it worth it for the town to have their own facility instead of buying it from Pennichuck. Basically we went out to bid and we were looking for services related to a full financial assessment of is it cheaper for us to buy from Pennichuck on a seasonal rate, all season rate, or is it cheaper for us to start looking into building our own treatment facility capital that's needed for it and also the staff that's supposed to do it. If that makes sense, then we'll be moving to the next phase which is all the environmental permitting and all the permitting associated with having a treatment facility for 2 million gallons. We went out to bid. We had three parties attend a mandatory pre-bid meeting and then we had the same parties submit the bids. They varied from \$21,000 to \$49,000. We had a budget of \$50,000 for this task and with that said, I'm here to recommend the Board of Selectman to award the contract to the lowest bidder as recommended by myself and the Finance Director.

Chairman Coutu asked how many gallons do we buy from Pennichuck in the summertime do you know that number. Elvis Dhima said it varies season to season but we typically have 1.2/1.3 from the wells and we can go as high as 2.1/2.2 per day during the summer. Steve Malizia noted sometimes 1 million gallons a day depending on what's going on. We also have the ability to purchase up to 2 million gallons a day from Pennichuck. As part of a discussion we had during budget season, we wanted to start looking into - we're not going to get more water out of our wells. We've drilled a whole bunch of holes in Hudson and we haven't found enough water. The next logical thing to look at is the biggest supply of water we got flowing by us. To look at that, we need to do some sort of cost benefit analysis and potentially some permitting if that looks like it's feasible. That will be in phases. This phase was \$50,000. To get the financial picture, does it make sense to keep doing what we're doing over there or do something different?

Chairman Coutu asked why would we limit ourselves to 2 million gallons. Why not go for the whole picture and bring in - if we're going to construct a water facility for the town, I would think it would behoove us to go full boat and look to expand our water districts in town. Construction is ongoing. The type of industry we're attracting now the pressure is not too great with regards to wanting water. We had one company if you recall Mr. Malizia a few years ago who wanted an extreme amount of water for flushing out whatever they were doing and they were going to put it back in through a filtration system and obviously reuse a lot of it but they were going to require an awful lot of water. I'd like to see our town to be as competitive as anyone else including Nashua in terms of being able to meet sewer and water demands. I don't think we're going to building our own sewer facility. That's a very expensive process but water it's expensive but not as expensive as a sewer treatment facility. I wonder why we just don't go for 10 million gallon capacity instead of the two.

Elvis Dhima said bigger is not always better. There's costs associated with it but to answer your question Mr. Chairman, we never see giving up the water coming out of the wells in Litchfield and that's about 1.5 million gallons. Our take on it has been if we're using 2.1 million and we already have about 1.3 to 1.5 per day, an additional 2 would bring us to basically 3 ½ million. That should be adequate for now and the near future like 10 - 15 years. You're right. Can we go maybe to 3 or 4 million gallons? The way we can

design or do the preliminary layout for the treatment facility is that we can add to that. What does that mean? We probably if we move forward with this, we can do 1 million gallons with the possibility of adding it to two. If the Board feels that maybe we should go to the next step, there's nothing wrong with as long as our site allows us to do it, to make a skinny long treatment facility that says we can add a third million gallons and a fourth million gallons. I don't see us expanding to 10 or 5 maybe because if you give water you have to get rid of water. That's going to be stuck with the sewer. It kind of goes hand to hand in a way. To answer your question, I think this is just to get it started. That doesn't mean that we can stop there. We will position the layout of the building so we don't limit ourselves just to two.

Chairman Coutu understood the concept of a long-standing building. I've been through other municipal water treatment plants. A lot of them started out like that. They had a lot of open space for expansion later and if that's the approach, it's a reasonable way to approach it.

Selectman Morin asked is that your plan to build because 10 or 15 years isn't very long and what's the cost difference going to be between doing it now versus 10 to 15 years if we can do it now. Mr. Dhima explained we have a bond in place as Mr. Malizia can say and I believe it will be paid off in 10 years. Our approach is because of the current administration in place at the White House, maybe we can get the permitting done if it's financial feasible for us and get that out of the way we can get the design done and basically put it on the shelves and if we really need it, then we can just pull the trigger. Right now, I don't think there's a need for us to we're running out of water. We have to throw straw in the river. I think it's good to have it ready so if someone gets putting us a number that we don't feel comfortable paying, we have this option available. We are planning for it. We don't quite need it because I don't think the numbers are there yet but if someone puts us in a corner, then we have this option that we can basically go on our own if we need to.

Chairman Coutu commented proactive is very good.

Selectman Martin had a question on the back of page 2. It says, "Please note that the water treatment plant has determined Phase I of the project approach is cost prohibitive to the town." Are you going to be eyeballing that or us or should we change the motion to say if it's cost prohibitive then...? Mr. Dhima noted that's a good question. The way Weston and Sampson did it in their proposal and I really liked it, it broke it down to two phases. Phase I which is \$10,000 and change of the financial and if that doesn't make sense, then we'll discuss and I won't spend another ten grand to do the permitting if that's the case. Even though the Board can approve it for \$21,210, it doesn't mean we have to spend all that. We can stop at \$10,000 if financially it doesn't make sense for us. Excellent point. Yes we can cut it to \$10,000. I'd like to get the full amount in case the numbers do make sense but if they don't, I'll just stop it right there.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to award the bid for engineering services for 2 million gallons per day treatment facility assessment to Weston and Sampson, the lowest bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$21,210 with funds from the Water Supply, Other Professional Services Account (5593-252) as recommended by the Town Engineer and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept delivery or make payment prior to July 1, 2018, carried 5-0.

F. Bid Rejection - Gordon Street Tank Maintenance

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

As you are well aware, Elvis Dhima stated the Gordon Street tank is our only tank that is steel and in need of a paint job simply put. We own three tanks in town. Two of them are concrete. The third one a steel tank. Basically it needs some updates related to the ladder, to the rail on the top, a new vent, a new access because the current access is not feasible and it doesn't meet current standards today. We went out to bid. We got one bid back just shy of \$1 million. We budgeted for \$775,000. I think we can do better than that so basically the plan of attack is to go over the RFP again, go out to bid again, and see if we can get a number that meets our needs and is within our budget.

Selectman Martin understood you think we can do better and I do agree but is there any way that you can advertise to a larger crowd versus just the Union Leader but maybe the Boston papers if we can. If it's

something that needs to be done and that's the only bid you got from around here, then I think we should expand our area and bring in different companies if we can. Elvis Dhima read by ordinance we're supposed to reach out to at least four different vendors and I did. What I can do maybe again is to maybe ask other people that know other vendors. It's such a specific field and people do some paint job inside maybe outside but not the whole thing inside and out and then do the whole cutting the tank and putting it off line. It's such complex and kind of one of those things. There's only so many big players and they're usually not around here. We can reach out to Texas I guess and all those but I'll do that. I'm going to reach out to people further out to see if we can get more. I think we can also maybe put some alternates in there so instead of having the entire Cadillac version built into this RFP, maybe we can put the base which is basically bring it up to date, do the paint job, but then leave in certain things as an alternative so if it makes sense for us we can add it. If we don't we can leave them out.

Mr. Dhima explained one of those alternatives is basically a water mixer inside the tank. It basically moves the water for better quality but also it doesn't allow to create a sheet of ice during the winter. When that water level during the winter is doing this, it's not scraping that paint inside and things like that. That could be \$50,000, \$75,000, \$100,000 to set it up. It would be nice to have I think is great but maybe we don't need that right away. What we do need right away is a paint job in the next few years. We'll rework the RFP and go out again. I'll check with a few people and they'll be going out on Friday. I'm hoping we can get a better number within our budget.

Chairman Coutu said I know that in the State of Massachusetts and I hate saying that but it's true, the State of Massachusetts has a lot of holding tanks all over the State. It might behoove you to call the State water control and their maintenance facility and see if they have a recommendation. I'm sure their tanks have to be painted every now and then. There are quite a few go all the way out to Springfield. You take a long ride and you see these holding tanks. Most of them are water. Some of them are fuel but an awful lot of them are water holding tanks because of the rural areas. I agree with you. I think that we should reject the bid at this time. I'm just hoping that we get a bid in soon because we may be going back begging to Suez and Kelly to do the job and try to come up with another \$200,000. Hopefully we won't have to. We'll trust your judgement. We do a little extensive outreach maybe and we'll be able to do well.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Martin, to reject the bid for the Gordon Street Tank Maintenance Project from Suez, the sole bidder, as recommended by the Town Engineer and the Finance Director, carried 5-0.

G. Bid Recommendation - Water Operations and Maintenance 5 Year Contract

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. Elvis Dhima explained as you are well aware, Pennichuck Water Works has been handling the operation and maintenance for the Town of Hudson for the past 20 years. That's been going through the original contract and numerous extensions after that. In January 2018, a letter from Pennichuck was sent to the Town of Hudson relating to they would no longer be able to extend the current contract. As of June 30, 2018, they submitted a new contract to us. Mr. Malizia and I looked at the numbers among other staff and it appeared that a counter offer was warranted. We submitted a counter offer. It wasn't must better than the original one so Mr. Malizia came before you to ask to provide a recommendation. The Board of Selectmen directed Mr. Malizia to go out to bid for these services. We put an RFP together. We had our legal review it. We had six vendors attend a mandatory pre-bid meeting and we got two bids. One from Pennichuck Water Works and one from White Water.

With that said, Mr. Dhima said I'll get into the numbers a little bit. Before I do that, I want to explain that the RFP the way it was set up was with an add on if you want to call it. Those are the MIUs. The MIUs are the radio readings. Basically instead of the readers going to every single house, they can drive around and they can basically pick up the signal without having to walk house to house. So we wanted a bid with that option built into it and an option without built into it. What's the difference? The difference would be that the contractor will be required to put that capital into our system and then we'll be paying off through the years. We don't want to do that because it's about \$1 million. We wanted them to do it but we wanted

to see if we could afford it or not. That's why there was two bids essentially put in. One with the MIUs and one without it.

With that said, Mr. Dhima said before we got the bids in, we basically came up with a criteria. Their criteria basically falls under the point system that I presented. The base contract is basically half of that criteria so if we got a good number for the base contract which basically services such as day-to-day operation, the chemicals, the wells, the booster stations, the tanks, and then 20 points was for the hourly rate task beyond the base contract. What are those? Emergency brakes, anything related to item that are outside of the base contract. Ten points was for the vendor's experience over ten years and then ten points was for the yearly base price increase. Because this is a five-year contract, every year they will be increasing it a little bit so we wanted to make sure that we get a certain amount of points for that because that's very important. You might get a low number but they're giving you a ten percent increase every year that adds up. Then five points for office locations near Hudson or in Hudson because that's important to us as well. Then five points was for my cut for materials. When we did the numbers with MIUs and without them, Whitewater basically scored higher than Pennichuck on both scenarios. 97 and 90 and then with no MIUs was 195. In addition, the Road Agent, Town Administrator, and Senior Foreman at Highway and myself had a meeting with Whitewater staff - presentation, questions, concerns and after that we basically have a company that's very capable of doing the same work and we'll be saving quite a bit of money over a period of five years.

Chairman Coutu stated we're going to make Whitewater a player in this field locally.

Selectman Morin said I have several questions. I looked at what you guys did and your scoring points basically go a lot on expense and I get that. I didn't see anything in here about service. I got some experience when we've had water main breaks and things to that and how that all works and contacts. So this is where my questions come from. Have they ever run a water company the size of us? Mr. Dhima said they run close to our system and basically in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. They have a system in Bow, Goffstown, Chelsea. Steve Malizia thought Chelsea, MA, has over 8,000 customers. We have 6,200.

Selectman Morin said right now I know when we get a water main break especially nights and weekends the company we're using now has a dedicated crew so they come right away. How are these guys going to respond? Mr. Dhima said it would be the same setup. They'll have dedicated crews basically staff that will be working in town and basically the construction crews they will either be utilizing town contractors, local contractors, or RH White coming out of Bow, New Hampshire. Selectman Morin asked are they going to have a crew specific to okay you're on call tonight for a call in Hudson or are they going to have to go on the phone and make a phone chain and call all these people to see whose coming? Elvis said the way it was explained to us during the presentation is they're going to have on-call staff for emergencies and they can either be local contracts or they can be RH White. Whitewater is a sub to RH White so basically if they can't get any local staff, and this will be all basically locked in prior to the agreement, if they can't get any local contractors to do that work, they're going to get RH White out of Bow to come in but someone will be on call no matter what.

Selectman Morin said what's going to happen is if for some reason we have a water main break at 3 o'clock in the morning and they call the local contractors so they've got to do that phone list and if they can't get anybody then we'll going to wait for somebody to come from Bow? Mr. Dhima said yes so the operators would be one is in Nashua and one is Chester. Once they identify what the issue is, basically the equipment and the material can come out of Bow which is about an hour. Selectman Morin indicated we get pretty quick service right now. Mr. Dhima said you get about 45 minutes to an hour because they still have to come from Merrimack right now. They have to go get the crews, sign in, get ready, come out. Mr. Malizia said you have to wait for Dig Safe too. Mr. Dhima agreed which is an hour. Selectman Morin said I get it but Bow is a lot farther than Merrimack is what I'm saying. Mr. Dhima said for now worst case scenario we talked about maybe they can utilize some of the local contractors to get equipment or material such as crushed gravel, cold patch, and things of that sort. They're capable and they're doing it for other communities. If we can get anything under an hour, I think that's pretty good. Even 90 minutes which is an hour and a half that's adequate.

Selectman Morin asked what do they do in the winter time. Are they a construction company or a water company? Elvis Dhima indicated they're a water company but they have a parent company which basically is in utilities - water, sewer, drainage, gas. RH White is basically everywhere. Selectman Morin asked so they don't do a layoff in the wintertime? We won't be short guys because they do a winter layoff? Mr. Dhima said with Pennichuck, we're going to have dedicated staff in Hudson that's going to be committed to our system. When you call, you're not going to act X one day and Y a different day. It's going to be the same people utilizing it. Two full timers and then a third full timer person that's basically going to be dedicated between different staff for SCADA, communication, electrical, plumbing and whatever our needs are. There will be two operators full time located in Hudson for this system. Whatever our needs are, they'll be bringing that help in and that expertise. Selectman Morin asked their local office is considered Bow. Mr. Dhima said they'll be having an office in Hudson on Candy Lane. Even though we have to wait an hour for them to come in here, the billing or the charging time starts when they hit Hudson which is the office here. We're not paying for that. That's how it was explained to us. The charging time starts when it hits Hudson because the office headquarters or whatever you want to call is in Hudson. If they said our office is in Bow, different story. This is not uncommon to have a headquarters where all your storage for gravel and all that material is especially equipment. It's kind of expensive.

Selectman Morin said I have a lot of concerns about who's going to do the work because it doesn't sound like we know who's going to do the work right now depending on who we can get is who's going to do it which kind of others me. Elvis Dhima said I can tell you that Highway had concerns about that - the Road Agent and the Sewer Foreman because they're the ones that deal with that. After the meeting we had, it was very constructive and a good meeting I believe. All those concerns were addressed and basically we will get the necessary equipment and materials needed for this because this is what they do in other communities as well.

Selectman Morin stated you just brought up another quest. Who is going to oversee that from Hudson? Who's overseeing this operation? Elvis Dhima said it's a good question. The way its being split up right now in a perfect world we would have a dedicated person just for this. It would be just like you have a sewer foreman right now which is Jess Forrence that basically all he does day and night is sewer and then everything else under the sun when he ever has a minute. For now, it would be basically Highway and Engineering. It would be myself, the Road Agent, Finance Director for billing, Jess for emergencies still. Basically the same setup as right now. It's SCADA communication, day-to-day operation will be me and things like that like or not. That's not what I signed up for but it's just one of those things. I can tell you that a lot of information, a lot of stuff we have access to the tie sheets, the billing, the sequence in. There's a second station for all the SCADA operation day-to-day built in my office right now in case that original one doesn't work we have a backup. I think we have a better handle on things than we did 2 or 3 years ago. So we feel more comfortable with that and that's one of the reasons we went out. To answer your question, right now would be a split between Engineering and Highway and Finance. Maybe in the future maybe that will change and we can have a dedicated person just for that. For now, it will just be Engineering, Highway and Finance.

Selectman Morin asked if we have an emergency our highway people are still going to go out first as they do now and assess the situation. Mr. Dhima said we're going to try to have the operators go there first. The way we're going to set up the SCADA for example it's going to have an on call. If there's something wrong with the chemistry, with the pressure issues at the booster station, they're going to be the first ones to get the call. I'm going to be on that list. Jess is going to be on the list. The Road Agent is going to be on the list and even Pennichuck staff might be on that list because we're still going to have a relationship with them. We still have to feed water to their customers in Litchfield. Basically we're going to set it up so they get the phone call first. If they don't, then we'll go and answer it. Right now Highway is getting the call first. They're going there and then calling it. We're trying to change that. The point is to reduce pressure on Highway staff so we have dedicated staff. One of the good things is that one of the operators that's going to be dedicated to this contract lives in Nashua. It's not that far away.

Selectman Morin asked why do we send our Highway people now then. That seems to work the situations that I've responded to that seems to work really well and we had our own people there right away. Why are we trying to get away with that especially now we're using a company that's so far away and we have multiple contractors that we possibly could use so why would we take us out of that picture. Elvis said

you'd be paying them for operation and maintenance. I guess the question is why are we doing it if we're paying someone to do it for us. I understand there is maybe a level of comfort there to get to figure out how they do it right or wrong. I can see that the first time, the second time and third time. If you're paying them to take care of it, why are we involved to begin with? That's what we're paying them for. It's like I hire someone to do the engineering services for me and then I'm designing for them. Why am I doing that if I'm paying them to do it? There's a lot of that going on right now with Pennichuck and other things. Not just this but other things as well that it's getting to the point that what are we paying for. That would be my question. Why is Jess showing up for all these years that they've been there? I understand the first time, the second time but after a while when it's the same crew why is it still doing that. Why aren't they getting the call and taking care of this? They're getting paid to do this to begin with. The same thing with the Windham booster station. Why were we involved in taking care of that when we hired someone to make sure that things like that don't happen like it's such a catastrophic failure in that station for people calling in and don't have water during the summer. Don't have water during the winter. Why is that happening?

Selectman Morin said my opinion on that is checks and balances to make sure we're getting what we pay for. Elvis Dhima said I get it and we can continue to do that if that's what the Board recommends I guess but I think it's taking a toll on staff in town. I guess if you're going to do that, you might as well cut down on the base contract and hire someone full staff to be there for that because it's kind of we're paying for both. We're paying for the staff to do that during the nighttime I guess but also we're paying someone on a yearly basis to do what they're supposed to do which is respond to emergencies. Selectman Morin stated just as long as we're making sure we're getting our monies worth. Again I'm going to state, I'm kind of concerned about multiple companies that we're going to have to worry about who's going to make repairs especially when we have a large water main break and we lose a lot of water in an area where a lot of people are out of water where we got to do a phone chain to figure out who's coming to fix it. That bothers me. Mr. Dhima said as long as it's set up right so someone gets a call and they respond. The first time we're going to know for a fact if it works or not or any adjustments need to be done. We didn't feel that just because we had Pennichuck do it a certain way, we don't feel comfortable with anyone else and we don't want to give them a chance even though there's hundreds of thousands of dollars on the line here to save over a period of five years didn't feel like it was...Selectman Morin said I agree with you. Mr. Dhima said there is a little bit of a learning curve there I agree with you. I totally agree with you. Selectman Morin said the way you stated it was we're going to try to get contractors in town. If we get a list of three, somebody has to call them and then they have to get back and say I can't do it. Then they go to the second one sorry I can't do it. Mr. Dhima said it won't be us. Selectman Morin understood that but it's our people that are affected by that that's my concern. Then we end up getting trucks from Bow after the fourth call. That's my concern.

Elvis Dhima said it will be a quick turnaround. Again if the operator gets the call, they'll make sure that someone is responding to the scene right away. Keep in mind they'll have to go there first to figure out if it's actually warranted to bring any equipment from Bow or that because it might be as easy as a fire hydrant just being completely hit by someone whatever accident there might and all it takes sometimes is turning off that gate valve and addressing that the next day. We'll find out when we get into it. I have full confidence that they're capable of doing it. They've done systems like us. We're not the first ones. They're currently doing system in New Hampshire and Massachusetts and this is what they do.

Selectman McGrath asked if that happened where they failed to respond in a timely manner and we weren't happy with their services is there an out clause in the contract without penalty? Elvis Dhima said there is a way out all the time without penalty. If we don't like it and there's a significant issue and they show incompetence, then like everything else in this town, you can't get the work done you're getting paid for you're done. It's not any different. Selectman McGrath thanked Mr. Dhima and said I think that addresses some of Selectman Morin's concerns.

Chairman Coutu said listening to the back and forth between you and Selectman Morin has really confused me. It seems to me that this process has been quite convoluted over the past few years. I'm not pointing the blame at you. I'm just making a comment based on what I heard. I make no pretense about knowing anything about the water system. I make no pretense about knowing about our underground sewer. I'm familiar with them. I've been in and out. I've seen the cameras as they operate

going through the pipes. I didn't get an engineer's degree. Selectman Morin has a lot more expertise because having worked in the Fire Department often times they get calls in the middle of the night to go out and assist. When you're out there, you get to observe. You listen to people talking. You familiarize yourself with what types of problems can occur and what the process is. What convoluted everything that you told me was it says to me and it would say - and I'm speaking on behalf of the average water and sewer use in the town - who may have suffered as a result of pipes breaking whether its water or sewer. The one that's most memorable to me is the one down behind T-Bones a few years back in the middle of the night. The pipes let go there and I don't know that you were on staff at that time. I don't think you were.

Chairman Coutu stated what I heard you say and what concerns me is checks and balances. You made a statement that we were paying Pennichuck to do this but they weren't doing it so our people had to respond. So that tells me we paid double. That shows incompetence and we didn't get out of the contract with them. I wish you would back track and explain that to me. That's pretty much what you said. That's what my understanding was is that we were paying Pennichuck to do the work and you used as a hypothetical you contracting out as an engineering for an engineering firm to do something and you ended up having to do the engineering work. We're paying you to do the engineering work that we are paying another company to do. You said why am I doing the work? That's how you quantify your statement about Pennichuck being paid to do the work but they weren't doing the work. We were bringing other people in to do the work. Where was this system of checks and balances on Pennichuck?

Elvis Dhima said that's really into the call that our staff responds to basically the first call and that would be Jess typically getting the phone call. It's my understanding that he gets a phone and he has to go the site and actually attends and assesses the situation and goes from there. My take on it is if you have someone that's running your system and you're paying them to respond - and I don't know what the setup was before my time obviously but it seems that the practice is that one of the staff from Highway attends every single event in the middle of the night whatever that emergency is going there. Basically what I'm saying is if you're paying someone to do the operation and maintenance, why does this particular staff from the Highway Department attends this to begin with. My take on it is based on the meeting we had with Whitewater is that if they're getting the phone call one way or another, they're the first one going to the site, assessing the site, making sure that Dig Safe gets done. If one of our staff wants to go there that's fine I understand that. Why do we have to go out there and making sure that the work gets done? We've had a contractor that's been doing this for 20 years. I would like to feel that it's the level of comfort in there. I'm not saying Pennichuck is not doing it but just feel like our staff is responding to the same thing that they basically should be the first one to and shouldn't have to.

Chairman Coutu asked we have a main break on Lowell Road and 2:30 a.m. You're making phone calls trying to get somebody down there. Doesn't it behoove us as a town to get one of the people from our department who can respond a lot quicker to get some assist from police, fire to block the roadway, to rope it off, to put up barriers so that people aren't going through this water? Wouldn't it make sense to get a much quicker response than waiting for somebody to come down from where you say a guy in Nashua but if he's not on call that night, where's the other guy live? Mr. Dhima said the other guy is in Exeter. Chairman Coutu said we're going to wait for somebody to come down from Exeter. In the meantime, cars are driving through this don't know where the hole is/the break is. Once the pipe breaks and the water is flowing, we don't know the size of the crevice. It could swallow up a car. Mr. Dhima stated I haven't seen anyone in 3 1/2 years that I've been here. I haven't heard anything like that. Our biggest one that I've seen was the one on Webster that basically blew up the road - the one we just paved - and we remember that a couple of years ago. I get it what your concern is. Our goal is to provide what's best for our customers I totally get that. As I said when we get a call from Highway, they make the call and they still shop up over there. They just wait until the next person gets in and takes over. We're not out there calling contractors saying come in and dig it out. That goes for Pennichuck right now.

Elvis Dhima stated what we're trying to do is basically say is that going to happen if we go with Whitewater I guess or is Whitewater going to say we're at the site we're taking care of it. You want to stick around, that's great but if not we got this. That's all I'm trying to get to. Chairman Coutu said if they've got it, we don't want our people sticking around because we're paying them time and a half. You didn't satisfactorily answer my question but anyway I'll pass it onto - maybe I'll be edified by what I hear.

Selectman Martin said I think I'm reading him correctly that it's duplicate services happening. We got somebody calling the Highway guy and he's coming out and assessing it and then he's calling the contractor. The contractor is getting people down here. Why don't we just day call the Fire Department they're on 24 hours day. They respond to most things that happen in town. I'm not suggesting that that's happened but there's a duplication of services and we're spending extra money. I think where he wants to go with it is the ownership should be put on the vendor and not the town staff. Chairman Coutu noted the town has always been the first to respond. Sometimes they wait an hour for somebody else to show up and they're already starting the work. I've seen them do that.

Selectman Morin said first of all it's not the Fire Department's job to detour traffic. They're to respond if there's an emergency flooding to that nature. I understand what you're saying put the ownership on that company but you just said again one of my concerns the second guy is coming from Exeter. Selectman Coutu brought up a very good point who's going to block the roads, who's going to take care of that so instead of tying up one Highway guy to bring some barriers to put around, we're going to tie up some police cruisers and some firefighters so we're going to take our on duty crews and get them all tied up. Mr. Dhima indicated I'm not saying that. Selectman Morin said I agree with you Elvis. I understand what you're saying. Please understand that it's their responsibility to get it fixed. We could as I said wait for somebody to come from Bow and a lot can take place. The Highway guys can shut down the water if we get a lot of houses being flooded by this or we're washing out roads or flooding a very large area they can shut the water down. They know where those are am I correct? Mr. Dhima said the operator can do that. One of the operators...Selectman Morin said we're waiting from Exeter. That's a lot of water flooding a large area.

Steve Malizia said the main guy - the head operator would be coming from Londonderry. The second - there's one from Nashua after that and the third guy is from Exeter. Selectman Morin said that's not how it was said. He said the first guy was from Nashua. Mr. Malizia said the top guy, the main guy that they're going to have - the boss - he's from Londonderry. There are two other guys that are subsidiary to him. Between the three of them, they will be the three on call and three people. They will be here in the office. They'll be working here during the day and at night you call one of those three people. Selectman Morin said right we don't get the Nashua or Londonderry guy. Again, we're waiting from Exeter which is the large main on Lowell Road when that went. How much water did we lose with that one? Mr. Malizia stated I couldn't tell you. I don't think we actually monitored. We have no way of doing that. Selectman Morin said that's a 16 inch pipe. So imagine how much water can come out of a 16 inch pipe in an hour. That's our major business areas and all kinds of things like that. Steve Malizia said we get about 10 to 12 main breaks a year of this size. That's my understanding from the statistical information we looked at. Selectman Morin said I get it but it only takes one. Mr. Malizia understood but if we look at what Pennichuck is doing during the regular day service and we look at the cost of that - and there is a cost associated with that - and then we look at the nighttime work which is obviously a concern. That was Kevin and Jess's main concern. That's why they attended this way. They listened and that's why they went through the scenario with these guys. You know Kevin, he doesn't want this town to look bad and he doesn't want something to happen that's not going to be favorable to us. In the end, they were satisfied with the answers they heard for this.

Selectman Morin stated so they didn't want to respond any more. They didn't want anything to do with any responses at night. Steve Malizia said more than likely Jess will respond because Jess really takes care of this town. Whether he does or doesn't, that's up to him. He's a salaried employee. We don't pay him overtime to go and do this stuff. I can't tell you whether he will or won't. It's not expected that he will but he very well may.

Chairman Coutu said which brings to mind is there somebody understudying Jess. Steve Malizia said well you have Jay that's the Highway foreman.

Selectman Routsis thought what part of the confusion may be though is when we're talking about this, we're talking as if we're just completely stepping away and saying no you handle it all. I think what we need - and I believe it's what's going to happen is we're still going to be involved in it. We're just not that first phone call. Let's say for some reason Londonderry's guy is not available or a Nashua gentleman is

not and happens to be Exeter, I don't think they're just going to say okay he's an hour away let's let the water spill. They'll call someone that is local that they know is on that and say hey listen our guy is on his way from Exeter can Jess go out. Knowing how our Highway Department works as well, I personally believe that they're going to work hand in hand with this and they're going to have that communication. They're going to know if there's a pipe that bursts. Someone is getting a phone whether they're on call for them or not. Selectman Morin indicated that's not what they said though. Selectman Routsis said no the phone call is supposed to go to them but that doesn't mean that someone doesn't know Kevin and calls him.

To move this on because we can talk about this all night long, Selectman Morin said I'm going to talk to them tomorrow. I'm the liaison and see what they feel and we'll take it from there.

With that in mind and that certainly said, Chairman Coutu asked does the Board wish to move on with this bid recommendation or defer it. Selectman Morin asked Elvis when do we have to have an answer by. Mr. Dhima said the sooner the better. We took quite some time to vent this out. If we do switch gears because they are qualified and they are the low bidder no matter which way we see this, there's not a lot of time to make the switch. June 30th is the deadline and I think we owe it to them if we do go with Whitewater to give them at least 4 to 6 weeks to make the transfer. I mean a lot of stuff can't be done electronically. There will be a lot of how they do the routes.

Chairman Coutu told Mr. Dhima with all of the conversations we've had something that you said quite a while ago when your original introduction to this that still bothers me that I haven't brought up. You said initially that they may have to rely on local contractors. They might have to call to get equipment in. Are they going to be doing this at 2 or 3 a.m. if they can't find anybody? Now they're going to start. They don't have their people are not available. Now we're going to start looking for these local contractors that maybe down at Salisbury Beach, vacation. Mr. Dhima said they'll be in Hudson. When I mean local, local Hudson. Chairman Coutu said they may be in Hudson but that doesn't mean they're readily available. How many backup people do we have? We have the crew from Whitewater. We're going to have our own municipal crews are backup. We'd like not to have to use them. You want to get rid of that problem. We're going to have these three guys from their company. We're going to have in case we can't hold of them now we've got some local contractors whoever they are that we can rely on and call on but nobody had a backhoe.

Elvis Dhima stated if this goes through, there will be contracts in place that Whitewater will have with local contractors and not local contractors to basically have equipment available in case of emergency for on-call services. It's not any different than what we have for on call services. Those get set up if they get the contract. No matter what, it's not going to be like 2 hours oh my god what are we going to do. The system will be set up. They've already done this.

Chairman Coutu said you gave us your assurance based on something that Selectman McGrath mentioned that we're going to - I want an out clause and I want it iron clad. I've seen out clauses that we've written into some of these contracts. You couldn't win on a lot of those. You could not get out of some of those contracts. I want to make sure that our legal department if these people are incompetent and cannot do the job after 2 or 3 calls - Jess is calling or the Road Agent is calling and saying hey these people just aren't responding. We have to be out there. I have guys out there 4 or 5 hours waiting for them. To me that's total incompetence. If this is what they're guaranteeing us, I want to make sure that the out clause is reviewed by our attorney and he says it's iron clad. I'll be a happy camper. I'll move this along tonight. I'll vote for it. I trust you. I trust based on your responses that you're doing your best to try to provide us the best of service for these repairs. It's not like it happens every night. It doesn't happen every night. If I go home tonight and I hear there's a call out because of a water main break. Mr. Dhima said they're not under contract yet until June 30th don't blame them for it.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Morin, to award the bid for the Water Utility Operations and Maintenance 5 Year Contract to White Water, Inc., the lowest bidder, in an amount of \$572,376 for the first year for the base contract with the MIU (Radio Read) Option from the Water Operations, Oher Professional Services Account (5592-252) as recommended by the Town

Administrator, Town Engineer, and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept delivery or make payment prior to July 1, 2018, carried 5-0.

H. Circumferential Highway, Sagamore Bridge to Route 111 Segment Update

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Elvis Dhima said I'm going to let you do the honors here the first half.

Chairman Coutu noted it's been 20 years in the making for the town. I've worked on this for 10 years. We all received our packet. We're very pleased to announce that the Senate Transportation Committee on the House amendment to HB2018, they amended the Bill by replacing Section 3 with the following and I won't go through all of the following. I'll go directly to #20 in the amendment of the Bill. I'm quoting verbatim, "Department of Transportation - Town of Hudson. The Department of Transportation is authorized to work with the Town of Hudson to plan, engineer, and construct a roadway compatible with turnpike standards within the southern portion of a circumferential highway right of way between NH Route 3A and NH Route 111 in Hudson. Planning, engineering, and construction shall be funded solely with town funds." You go over to the amendment to HB2018, the amended analysis of this legislation as approved on Article 17, "Authorizes the Department of Transportation to plan, engineer, and construct a highway in Hudson with town funds."

Chairman Coutu stated we have been put on the ten-year plan. That is with the amended analysis does. In Article I it says it adopts the ten-year transportation improvement plan for 2019 through 2028 and Article 27 authorizes the Department of Transportation to plan, engineer, and construct a highway in Hudson with town plans. We've had it on the ten year plan. It was taken away from us and now it's back on. I'm not going to get into a lot of the particulars Mr. Dhima because I expect that you can announce to some of the plans that we've discussed about seeking federal funding on this project and how much we could conceivably get. I want the people of Hudson to know that you've heard in all of the elections that I've been involved in and all of the elections that - well as Selectmen we're involved in every election so I've been involved in every election for ten years. In terms of as a candidate, we present ourselves every three years. Almost without exception, every single year one of the questions that are asked either by someone like me who's hosting a candidates night on television for the candidates or at the Junior Woman's Club sponsored candidate's night, one of the questions that's almost always asked is what is Hudson's greatest problem. The answer inevitably always comes back to transportation. We're growing, we're growing, we're growing.

Lowell Road congested. It's not any more. Chairman Coutu said I moved here 20 years ago. I went through Lowell Road this afternoon to go again to look at that property that I've been looking at that you mentioned you saw or however you saw it. At 2:15 this afternoon it was a nightmare to get from my house up Lowell to get over to - it was just backed up. It's starting to pile up not just from 4:30 to 6:30. It's starting to pile up at 2:15, 3:15, 3:30. Lowell Road, 102, 111, and as result of that Wason Road and all of the arteries that people are using as shortcuts that's over and beyond. That's the overflow from the main arteries that people are trying to escape from. I've looked at this for the past ten years and for the past ten years I was bewildered that the State of New Hampshire, Department of Transportation, couldn't see how important this project is to the Town of Hudson not just to 111. I'm willing to support that piece but to 102 and eventually across the river to a direct route right to Route 3 the new Exit 9. Maybe it took a little bit of shouting. Maybe they got fed up with me going there and arguing year after year but I appreciate you participating in this. You've wholeheartedly got involved in this. Selectman Morin you got involved. Mr. Malizia you've been involved. You've been to Concord with me many, many times. You just keep your cool and you don't get as frustrated as I do. I'm speaking for the town and sometimes I feel the only way I can make my point is to raise my voice and call them as I see them I guess. Tell them like it is. You were there the last time.

Chairman Coutu said this is great news for the Town of Hudson but I want to make something very, very clear to the listener, the voters, and the town. You've heard the number thrown out there \$50 million and we're going to pick up the cost. That is not an exact number. I believe and I strongly believe based on conversations I've had with people at DOT that the \$50 million number was a number to try to dissuade

us. I think it's a lot less than \$50 million. You and I have had that conversation. It could come in at 40. It could come in at 30. However there's federal monies available. We'll certainly work towards getting that. If we are serious about solving the traffic problem in the Town of Hudson having looked at this plan over, and over, and over again and as a matter fact the other day I found 2 or 3 ten year plans in my files cabinets. Each and every single time the circumferential highway was mentioned. If we are to truly resolve the problem for today and in the long term for the Town of Hudson, we need the circumferential highway. If we can't 60 percent of the voters to agree that this is the solution, I hope I never hear anybody say to me oh the biggest problem in the Town of Hudson is traffic. So you had an opportunity to resolve it once and for all. Don't blame us because we're doing the best we can to get this resolved and we're going to try to keep the cost as low as possible. Not too many towns build fire stations and remodel fire stations at the price that we do. They pay millions above what we pay. We are very frugal and very conservative with the taxpayers' money. We will continue to be frugal. We will work incessantly to keep the costs down on this construction and don't throw the \$50 million number out there until a thorough cost analysis which I think you're going to also explain Mr. Dhima. With all of that said, I thank all of you and I thank the Board in toto for your support for allowing us to go and see what can be done and hopefully we can persuade the entire Board to be on track with this one. Mr. Dhima I turn it over to you and I hope you will talk about the potential for doing a thorough cost analysis and federal funding availability.

Elvis Dhima said basically now that we're in the ten year plan, it allows us to tap into federal money. This particular program used to be called the "TIGER Program" under the Obama administration and those were for shovel ready projects. The Trump administration has changed that to build projects and that's basically for anything that meets certain criteria such as financial, safety, economic, competitive, quality of life, and all this. There's about a \$1.5 billion dollar for the entire country and there's a certain max and minimum per State. Basically every project has a minimum and a maximum. A particular thing about this particular grant is that it starts in April and it's done in July so there's only three months. The ones that don't know they just don't know and that's it you lose it. The ones that do are aware of this and we are aware of this basically hire staff or hire consultants that they can take care of the grant and then it goes to Washington. That's when everything starts.

If the Board does pursue this particular grant - and I'll get into it - we still have a lot of work to do. Mr. Dhima stated the Board needs to send letters to NH Senators to basically help us with this and get us in the front line. I'm not sure how many projects from NH are going there. This is one of a few gives us a greater opportunity to get into it. The two projects that have been mentioned in this memo is the \$10 million for Lebanon and Concord. They didn't get it the first time but they got it the second time. The benefit that we get is that we are saying that we want to pay for the remainder of it so there's no other contingencies. Basically we're saying if you give us this money we're going to pay for the rest. The scope of work here is pursuing the circumferential highway while we're reducing the total number for the taxpayers by going for this but that other money is coming from us. If they intend it's for us to basically make up the difference, it appears it's going to give us a lot of points when we go through the evaluation.

Elvis Dhima indicated McFarland and Johnson has done work for us in the past. They did Pelham and Lowell Road. They were the low bidder. They have done similar work - similar grant money for this. There's about 300 hours involved with this grant. Mr. Malizia and myself had the discussion with a company representative. If we had more time, we would have gone out to bid. Unfortunately if we burn a month going through that process, there's just not going to be enough time to do this. That's why it's in front of you tonight to basically sole source it and then go with this. I don't know if you were provided with but the application about this big. Part of this application process is coming up with a realistic number for the project and that's where the construction basically costs come in. We'll get a better number. In addition, we're going to get the cost benefit, the financial benefits of doing this circumferential highway which I think will be beneficially to us to show to everyone else including us what the benefits would be. It's not just traffic but it could be financial benefits to us as well. What that is I don't know exactly what they look at. Maybe because now you're providing frontage. There's going to be areas that could be developed differently. I'm not sure but it will all be looked at including the traffic analysis to basically get some numbers of how much traffic we're getting off Wason Road, how much traffic we'll be getting off Lowell Road, how much traffic we're going to get off 111 before it gets into the town center. That will be addressed for the traffic modeling and NRPC will be helping us believe it or not. They're actually willing to help us with the model.

Chairman Coutu indicated Jay and I have been communicating and he promised that he would help us. Mr. Dhima noted he's a great guy. A great resource for the town. Good to have someone over there to basically keep giving us hints of things that are out there. It was actually one of the reasons we're into this tonight. We felt that this was enough to bring in front of the Board and ask you which way you want to proceed. If you want to pursue it or not, it's up to you. The return if we get it could be significant.

Selectman Morin asked is there an amount of that grant that we would get or is it just based on the total amount of the...Chairman Coutu said a maximum of \$25 million. Steve Malizia indicated so you put in a percentage that you're asking for. The other key thing to remember too is for example we do it this year. Let's say you did it this year and we're not successful. If you chose to do it next year, it's a heck of a lot cheaper and you've already been in the system. Not a lot of entities apparently respond quickly to this type of request. We had this discussion there was a project up in Lebanon which I don't know if you go up to Lebanon but it doesn't seem as critical as this project does but anyways a lot of agencies, a lot of townsmen can't respond quickly. Half of them aren't even aware of this. They pass it out to every State. If we're one of the only ones in this State and we can prove an economic benefit to the area, better quality of life, all those things, we have a good shot of getting the good rating. If we don't get it this year and we want to do it again next year, we don't have to spend money to do this. It's just a lot shorter to update. Just keep that in mind too. Again it maybe shows a commitment. We're trying everything we can do.

Selectman Morin asked do we have to have a commitment from the town to get this. Elvis Dhima stated as long as it is committed by the Board of Selectmen just like we did through the CMAQ project. We didn't have the voters until March but we did have the commitment by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee saying we're going to pursue this through a warrant article. I think as long as the intent is there for us to pursue it, I think its good enough.

Steve Malizia said we got it in the ten year plan with our expression of intent. We don't have the voters on this and after we convinced the Senator folks to put it in that went a long way.

Selectman McGrath had a couple of questions and a comment. If the grant is awarded to Hudson which there may be a potential, when would that money need to be spent within the 2019 budgeting process and when would they be awarding it? Elvis Dhima indicated it appears to me from the discussions we had that we would love to have an answer about getting the grant or not by December. Usually sometimes it goes into January of 2019. It could be 4 to 6 months basically in a perfect world depending on how things go in Washington. As far as the window, I think it's a five year window. It's my understanding to have the money available for this particular project which you have to commit to. It's not one year or two years. As long as you're showing this progress so if you start doing the design or preliminary design and you get into the permitting, as long as you're showing progress I think that money can stay there. If you have no intent or let's just say that the voters go against this and you say I don't have my half to do this project and you basically let them know, there's no penalties. You just never touch the money and it goes back. We would have an answer if let's just say things go well and we do get this in March if we ask for a warrant article, you will have the answer from us. If it's a nay, then it doesn't matter if we get the grant or not it all goes away. The warrant article instead of \$50 or \$30 million, it could be for \$5 million depending if we get any money for this. The maximum is \$25 million.

Selectman McGrath said the timing would be if say they granted it in January or May, it's not timely for next March is election for the voters to vote on this. Even if they did award the grant, that money would be available for a period of five years. So there would be another opportunity to place it on the ballot for the voters. Mr. Dhima said it appears so yes.

Selectman McGrath had a couple of questions. The location of this so-called circumferential portion. It's not the circumferential highway. It's a portion and as I understand it, it actually circumvents Wason Road, Bush Hill Road, and brings whatever traffic is heading towards 111. It takes them away from Wason Road and the back roads and just puts them on a parallel road to those neighborhoods. It doesn't alleviate the traffic on Lowell Road that's heading north and trying to get to 102 or the northern portion of Hudson. Am I correct in that? Elvis Dhima said there will be a portion of that and the answers will be in the traffic modeling. The biggest thing is it will be a relief between 111 and basically Sagamore Bridge because it

will be a direct shot. Instead of people using Kimball Hill, Musquash, Wason Road. Will there still be traffic on Lowell Road heading to 102? Absolutely. Selectman McGrath said just so it's clear that this isn't alleviating it. It may in some respects have some benefit to traffic traveling on Lowell Road but primarily it's to circumvent Wason Road, Bush Hill Road, and those backroads to get to 111. It's a parallel road to those neighborhoods. Mr. Dhima said it's basically one of the three legs that was the original run of circumferential highway which was Sagamore to 111, 111 to 102, 102 over Merrimack River to get to Merrimack. There might be down the road but this is just one of the three and that's how it was sold to the turnpike when we had the meeting with the State that we're only seeking at this time some relief for Hudson on this. It will be at a regional scale but the entire location of the right of way is within Hudson.

Selectman McGrath stated the second part of my question about this parallel road is that are there any plans that were developed at any point in the last 40 to 50 years that could be utilized? Mr. Dhima said yes. There is two alignments and the DOT Deputy Commissioners appear to be willing to share that with the Town of Hudson if we move forward. Whatever they have will be utilized and I can tell you that those plans will actually be used for this study because we have to give the feds an actual realistic approach to this design. So there's two alignments within that and we're going to have to figure out which ones we need to use or the closest to and we'll be utilizing the topography, the (inaudible) that we have to give a quick schematics of what this highway - it's called a highway but it's going to be more like a Lowell Road because it's two way, one lane or whatever. Selectman McGrath said it's just skirting a couple of back roads is really what's doing. In any event, there are plans that could be utilized. Mr. Dhima said yes.

Selectman McGrath's comment about this is that you probably didn't know Lenny Smith. Lenny Smith spent most of his life - he was in the legislature and he was a Hudson resident and he spent most of his life fighting for that circumferential highway. He deserves some credit and some mention because he spent all of his time up in the legislature. He spent time in the fire department thus the reason for the fire station over here being named after him. If this is accomplished, Lenny who is in a far better place today deserves credit. Thank you.

Chairman Coutu said I don't disagree and so does Selectman Maddox. He's been to several meetings with us and he always referred to the Mad Maddox Highway. Mr. Malizia commented he called it many different things.

Selectman Routsis had a couple of quick questions. We're talking about it being a secondary type of road. Is it going to displace anybody from their homes? Elvis Dhima said no. We will not do any eminent domain. That's been the biggest thing about this whole project. The current right of way within Hudson from Sagamore to 111 it's already an established right of way and it's basically about 400 to 500 feet wide. There's plenty of room with this established right of way to do something. We don't have to go into properties. We don't have to go into neighborhoods. This is basically the wooded area already in place and will be utilized.

Selectman Routsis said that was one of the things I wanted to ask because I think there was a write up a couple of weeks ago that said it would. I wanted to clear that up. I know we're talking about it alleviating traffic but do we know how much traffic it might bring on the flip side because you're going to have both. Mr. Dhima said the traffic model will be able to tell us existing and future conditions and that will be part of basically making a good case for this. If we do build this road, they will come. I don't know what will happen and I can't guarantee this. I don't know what will happen while these parcels that will have frontage to this road now. They'll have to go through the turnpike but if they can make a case that they need a road to get in and out of, I don't know what will happen to that. That will have to be a whole new - that could blow up the town to basically now you have this whole corridor there that can be subject to business, residential, or whatever the voters decide, or you, or the Planning Board, or the Zoning decides to zone it as. There will be road there and they'll bring a lot of questions to what will happen now to all this adjacent property to it that currently doesn't have access to anything.

Selectman Routsis said my only other honest question was we're talking about a big number of 50. Let's say we were to be awarded a complete \$25 million and I'm just going at the top of everything because those are the big numbers. We'd still be left with let's say \$25 million. My concern is and I personally am not for the circumferential highway or the road. I will leave it up to the voters because at the end of the

day it is their decision but we were against a renovation to a school because of what that would do to the tax base, and the tax dollars, and the amount of people that it would potentially have leave the town. I don't see where the dollar amount on this is going to be very different and that's going to be a concern for me.

Chairman Coutu said I tend to disagree with you on why the voters didn't vote for it. There's a question of need. Selectman Routsis stated I'm not saying that's why they didn't vote for it. I'm saying that was a general consensus was that it would be too expensive and people would potentially leave and this is going to be the same. Chairman Coutu noted so you're opposed to the circumferential highway. Selectman Routsis said yes I am.

Selectman Morin stated if somebody's got a question and correct me if I'm wrong other than the traffic lights, it's basically going to be like the Milford bypass. It's got to be that wide because it needs to meet all the federal standards and that's what they told us in the State and to relate to that when you're talking about all that land around the highway because it is going to be a State road - they may make it into a State road that's going to affect development anyway. Elvis Dhima explained if they need access to that road, they won't be coming to us to ask for a curb cut. They'll be going to the State. If the State says no, this is a highway. There's no way I'm giving you but they could build a ramp or they can say hey that's not a highway now because it won't be a highway. We're only building half of the original plan. Selectman Morin said if you look at the Milford bypass, that's why I said if somebody wants to have an idea of what it's going to look like, the Milford bypass is two lanes other than the traffic lights.

Chairman Coutu stated except that in the out years if we commit to this and the voters said yes and we do begin with the construction based on conversations we've had with DOT, the stakeholders on this property who own all this property all the way up to Route 3 I think would look very favorably on wanting to continue the construction. From what I understand from DOT, they will backtrack to the Sagamore Bridge and they will make that two lanes on both sides at that point and then they'll just go all out all the way up to Route 3. Could it be a toll road? More than likely it would be a toll road. All of that will come out during the election and we'll have a clearer picture especially if we go ahead and do this study. We'll have a better understanding and it's total impact in public safety, how it may impact neighborhoods in terms of development, how much traffic is going to be alleviated off of Lowell Road and 111 and potentially 102 because of the cut across from 102 to 111 might facilitate them coming down to the Sagamore Bridge by using this portion of the road.

Selectman Routsis had one other question. So we're funding it potentially. The use of the State would own it afterwards though? Elvis Dhima explained the State would own it because they own the right of way. We'll maintain it and plow it. Selectman Routsis asked then why are they not paying for some of it. Steve Malizia said because they have no money.

Chairman Coutu stated all of the money that they have is committed because it's for the next year or two years. They were awarded \$150 million they were given and it's all been committed most of it to 193. A lot of it in Manchester. That's been my argument with DOT. They said hello we're Hudson. We're the ninth largest community. Every time I hear money being awarded it goes to Concord, it goes to Nashua, it goes to Merrimack, it goes to Manchester. I've seen highways going to nowhere being built for millions of dollars in Nashua, New Hampshire. You don't have to go far. I can take you to Nashua and show you a couple of these bills that they did for quite a few million that start somewhere but go nowhere on both ends and people in Nashua are saying to me I don't know what the hell they built this for. We don't need this. It's causing more traffic problems. The State sees this as the solution. We have always seen this as a solution.

Chairman Coutu stated another benefit that they are going to provide us is the environmental impact studies have been done. They're going to assist us if not be the lead to take us through with the EPA or whatever agencies they have to go to through all of the environmental impacts and how they're going to address them. That's a significant cost savings if they undertake that part of the project. All of their engineering studies and what not will be made available to us and I think I heard and correct me if I'm wrong, there was four of us there, that maybe some of their staff will be available to us on an ongoing basis throughout this project. Now Nashua Regional Planning Commission the Director there sent an e-

mail to Elvis. Elvis had requested his assistance and he committed to it and then he followed up with an e-mail directly to me and said Roger I'm just not expressing my intent to help you. I will be there for you guys all the way from beginning to end if I can help. I reminded them of what the Commissioner told us which really aggravated me was how many members of the legislature do you have in Hudson. I said 14. How come not a single one has ever come into our office to pressure us to do anything about this? I said we're members of NRPC. How come they haven't been in here fighting for you? They get money for all the other towns. How come they're not fighting for you? It was kind of an embarrassment from my perspective anyway. I thought it was a little embarrassing that here the citizens of Hudson are saying the greatest issue, the number one issue in the town is traffic and we don't have people fighting for our citizens who want alleviation from the congestion. Here is a golden opportunity. They'll either accept it or reject it. The voters will decide in the end. I understand where you're coming from on that point. I've had people come to me. One member of the Budget Committee said to me I don't support it. I don't think we should be spending that kind of money but I will vote for it to go on the ballot. I will approve it. Let the voters decide. I look at well that's one vote. I respect that. Selectman McGrath has said many, many times that she didn't support certain things and I've said it. I don't necessarily support it but you know let's let the voters decide on this one. Then I don't ever want to hear that we have traffic problems in Hudson. It's just going to get worse, and worse, and worse. That's up to the voters to decide and it's going to depend on the pros and cons and how best to present it. If we can't articulate our position, we're not going to win at the polls. If we do articulate our position well, we can conceivably come away with the beginning of what would be - one of the things that has always appeared on the master plan is this particular project and a resolution to the mess that we have in town.

Steve Malizia stated we do need to take care of this order of business if we're going to go forward. That's what I think what we're asking for.

Chairman Coutu said what the Engineer has proposed is that we contract with McFarland Johnson. Because of the time constraints, we're going to have to waive the bid process. The amount would not exceed \$38,000 and they will come in with the bill plans, the realistic cost estimate and they will start putting everything together and then they will put the grant application together. Now are you assured that they can get a grant application written up? I know they've already done some. Can they do this within one month? Mr. Malizia indicated they can do it for the deadline of July 17th.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to waive the bid process and to award the engineering services to McFarland Johnson, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$38,000.

Selectman McGrath said I'll support this motion solely for the purpose of seeing whether or not we'd get any federal funding for this so that the voters will have a full understanding of what the impact would be to their budgets. This vote does not suggest in any way shape or form that I support this project.

Chairman Coutu understood and I appreciate that. Thank you.

Steve Malizia pointed out that I think you need to take the money from an account and I think the account probably at this point will be legal where we have an abundance of extra funds. So 5200-218 legal fees just so it's on record.

Motion by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Martin, to waive the bid process and to award the engineering services to McFarland Johnson, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$38,000. Funds to be allocated from Legal Account 5200-218.

Selectman Routsis noted real quick like I had said, I will support it to move forward to get numbers. I will support it to go on a ballot if it need to. I personally am against this project. At the end of the day, it's not for me to make the end decision.

Chairman Coutu appreciated both of you allowing us at least an opportunity to peruse in the final analysis what the cost is going to be and whether or not federal funds are available. I appreciate that. Any further discussion? Seeing none.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

I. Revenues and Expenditures

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia noted we're through April. That's ten months - 83 percent. Things continue to look on track. As we discuss, we had extra money. We'll have money leftover in legal and some of the other accounts. We're in real good shape and revenue continues to be strong. We're at 93 percent of motor vehicles so we should exceed that target. Again this has been a good year for the town of Hudson.

Chairman Coutu said the only question I have - I went through each line - the only thing Mr. Malizia we had this discussion I think some time last week. You and I talked about this. Public Works were in a negative \$146,000. Mr. Malizia said if you recall, we got a grant for \$3,000 and a one-time grant from the State. It has not been grossed into the budget yet. Chairman Coutu said we're not in bad shape there at all. Isn't there another one pending? Kathy Carpentier indicated the Trustees of the Trust Fund haven't cut the checks to reimburse for like an IT project either.

Chairman Coutu asked if there were any questions or concerns about the revenues and expenditure report. I think we're in great shape. Thank you. It shows good management on the part of our administration. It's appreciated.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Morin - I attended the VFW Loyalty Awards the other night. Some of our employees received much deserved recognition for the jobs they do every day.

Also I was out and about on Saturday and I actually passed three groups of residents. Nothing that's a formal plan but they were cleaning up our streets and picking up trash. There was a very large group at Robinson Pond. It was all the neighbors that live around the pond. They do it every year. They had a huge pile of stuff that they had picked up from the town beach, from the boat ramp, and all the area around the pond. They just do this on their own every year. I'd like to thank them.

The last comment I got if you watched the School Board meeting last night the public input was pretty interesting. I would hope that the Budget Committee would take some of that information that was passed out last night and definitely look at that when budget time comes. Plowing obviously was just the tip of the iceberg.

Selectman McGrath - I have nothing.

Selectman Routsis - I just wanted to apologize for missing our last meeting. My daughter had surgery so I was home taking care of her. Hopefully there is no more. Other than that, I do not have anything.

Selectman Martin - Tomorrow evening on the 9th at 7 p.m. at the Hills Memorial Library the Budget Committee will hold their monthly meeting with a presentation from the NHMA. Steve Buckley will present basic laws of budgeting. Everybody is welcome to come if they would like.

One of the things I've been paying attention to is the Zoning Board is still in need of some members so I'm trying to put the plug out here. We still need a full member and three alternates to fill this Board completely. I want to say thank you to Mr. Dearborn for coming back and serving our town for a couple more years and continue to thank the people that are serving on the Zoning Board because they're doing a great job. They were tasked with a site walk last week and they are meeting again this Thursday evening to talk about that site walk case. That's all I have Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Coutu - I really don't have anything this evening except to remind everybody you should have receive an invitation from the VFW for the Memorial Day Parade. Its usual route start at Hannafords. We usually meet there at 1 o'clock and we leave around 2 p.m. I didn't go last year. I didn't know where I was going to ride because I certainly can't walk that route like I did in previous years and I wish I could. You

don't need to tell anyone that you're going. You just show up if you want to and usually we gather together as a Board. If you feel you can walk the route, good luck.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to enter nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee; and (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community carried 5-0 by roll call.

Chairman Coutu entered Nonpublic Session at 9:06 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 9:17 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, to hire Elizabeth White as a student intern employee for the summer of 2018 in support of Alvirne High School's Academy of Finance program at a rate of \$10.00 per hour for approximately 150 hours. This is a temporary position without benefits, carried 5-0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Morin, carried 5-0.

Roger E. Coutu, Chairman

David S. Morin, Vice-Chairman

Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

Angela Routsis, Selectman

Normand G. Martin, Selectman