

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the January 12, 2016 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Maddox the meeting of January 12, 2016 at 7:03 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by George Hall.
3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Rick Maddox, Roger Coutu, Pat Nichols, Marilyn McGrath, Ted Luszey

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Police Chief Jason Lavoie

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Maddox asked does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time. Please state your name and address for the record Sir.

My name is Nathaniel Plaza. I live on 6 Plaza Avenue. I'm here tonight to question the town what the status is with Kinder Morgan as far as becoming an intervenor of the pipeline. I've talked to Steve during the week and at the time he informed me that the town has not filed an intervenor. I feel the town should give us residents of this town the full cooperation in defeating the construction of this pipeline. It's going to be a real hazard as far as our water supply, our values of properties, and you name it. Whatever there is, it's going to affect. Kinder Morgan says it's not going to affect anything. They sit there and they like a gravy train oh everything is going to be fine but we haven't gotten any real good answers from them people. I've been to several FERC meetings. I've been to the SEC meeting in Windham. At the SEC meeting, they were very vague. Like we asked them a question is this gas going to be exported? I said no. A few minutes we sent another question to them. Are you going to reverse flow on this pipeline that runs from Dracut and Nova Scotia? Their answer was it depends on the market. I said well is that export or what is it? Then they don't answer.

Mr. Plaza said we've presented FERC and Kinder Morgan with a lot of these questions. We need people I believe above and the politicians up into Concord and wherever we go to help to defeat this project. As of yet, our Governor she is so so on the project. She won't say yes. She won't say no. A few weeks ago we presented the Governor with \$10,600 signatures against this pipeline. She wouldn't even come out and talk to us. I was there. She sent her secretary there. I'm just wondering if the town is going to file an intervenor, you have only until the 14th to file it. I have filed mine. I believe there is thousands and thousands of intervenors filed so we can find out what is actually going with FERC. I think FERC is our problem. FERC I understand that these people you work for FERC for 2 or 3 years and then you're hired by the gas company. They fill the slot with one of their people. It's not a federal agency. They do whatever they want. I'm wondering if the town was going to go ahead and file for this intervenor. It's very easy. All you have to do is go on line and there's all kinds of directions on how to do it.

Chairman Maddox said that is a topic for our regular meeting.

Selectman McGrath asked the number of signatures that you had that you presented were those all Hudson residents or...Mr. Plaza didn't know where they all came from. I saw the pile of signatures. I don't know if they were just Hudson or the whole New Hampshire. I think it was the whole of New Hampshire.

Selectman Luszey commented if it was just Hudson it would be half the town.

Chairman Maddox asked any other questions from Board members. So we will be voting on that shortly. Thank you for our input. Anyone else in the audience? Seeing none.

5. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

A. Resignation of Robert Russell as a member of the Municipal Utility Committee

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to accept the resignation of Robert Russell as a member of the Municipal Utility Committee with the Board's thanks and appreciation, carried 5-0.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Maddox if any Board member wished to remove any item for separate consideration. Seeing none.

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

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Certification of Yield taxes Assessed/Timber Warrant - Map 110, Lot 012, 24 Putnam Rd., w/recommendation to approve
- 2) Veteran Tax Credits - Map 177, Lot 005, Sub 073 - 11A Intervale Ct.; Map 177, Lot 005, Sub 073 - 11A Intervale Ct.; Map 177, Lot 005, Sub 110 - 37B Shadowbrook Dr.; Map 156, Lot 006, Sub 028 - 18 Cricketfield Ln., w/recommendation to approve
- 3) Current Use Lien Release - Map 184, Lot 27 multiple - Cobblestone Village, w/recommendation to approve

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Abatement - S-UTL-16-13 - 12 Shoreline Dr.; S-UTL-16-14 - 17 Blackstone St.; S-UTL-16-15 - 97 Highland St.; S-UTL-16-16, 5 Parkhurst Dr.; S-UTL-16-17, 7 Roy Dr., S-UTL-16-18, 5 Merrimack St.; S-UTL-16-19, 25 Flying Rock Rd., w/recommendation to approve

C. Donations - None

D. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Outdoor Gathering Permit - British Cars of NH
- 2) Brox Industries - Night Trucking Permit
- 3) Outdoor Gathering Permit - Hudson Kiwanis
- 4) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - Glenn Smeltzer a/k/a The Blushing Rose
- 5) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - Matthew Reddig a/k/a Spring Hill Catering, Inc.

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the November 3, 2015 Meeting
- 2) Minutes of the November 10, 2015 Meeting

F. Calendar

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| 1/13 | 7:00 | Planning Board - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 1/18 | | MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY - TOWN HALL CLOSED |
| 1/19 | 7:30 | Budget Cte - Public Hearing if necessary - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 1/19 | 7:00 | Cable Utility Cte - HCTV Facility |
| 1/20 | 5:00 | Municipal Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room |
| 1/20 | 7:30 | Senior Affairs Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 1/21 | 3:00 | Trustees of Trust Fund - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 1/21 | 7:30 | Budget Cte - sign forms - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 1/21 | 7:00 | Benson Park Cte - HCTV Facility |
| 1/25 | 7:00 | Sustainability Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 1/26 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room |
| 1/27 | 7:00 | Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 1/28 | 7:00 | Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 1/30 | 9:00 | School Deliberative Session - Comm. Ctr. |

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on December 22, 2015

- 1) Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to accept the Police Chief's Memo dated 12/10/15 request to reimburse employees who did not receive their Educational Incentive Stipend in accordance with the Agreement between the Town of Hudson and Police Union Local #3657 as outlined in the Police Union Contract (XVIII. Educational Incentive), carried 5-0.
- 2) Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to allow Kathy Carpentier to buy out 80 hours of vacation time, carried 5-0.
- 3) Motion to adjourn at 9:37 p.m. by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, carried 5-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Maddox said without objection, I would like to just swap A. for B. under New Business which is the amendment to Town Code. I want to get the Police Chief back out on the road. It's been very busy so it shouldn't take that long. If you would Sir.

B. Amendments to Town Code Chapter 317, Sections 317-15 Violations and penalties and 317-19 Parking Restrictions

Chairman Maddox recognized Police Chief Jason Lavoie. Good evening Chief.

Good evening. Chief Lavoie said ironically enough it's snowing tonight. A short time ago Mr. Burns contacted me regarding trying to do something better to time when we have these snow storms and motor vehicles parking on roads and interfering with the snow removal. Frankly he came up with an idea that seems worthwhile so we thought we'd bring it before the Board to see if the Board wished to continue in furtherance of it to have the current Town Ordinance amended. Under 317-15 of the Town Ordinances, we do already have a policy in place that coincides with the parking ban which begins December 1st and ends March 30th. However that fine for the overnight parking is a \$20 fine.

Chief Lavoie indicated what Mr. Burns is looking for and I do support is that in situations like tonight when the snow is whenever there is a snow clean up in process, that the fine for vehicles that are left on the roadway be \$100. We do not have a fine really for that for those instances. The reason why to have a separate fine the request is being made is because when the vehicles are left out on the road it causes quite the interference because the plow trucks can't get by. They can't plow the roads properly. They then have to contact the police. We have to go out and try and raise somebody from the residence. Often times by the time we get there, we're traveling in the snow as well. It could take a while or on a night like tonight when the plow truck driver is trying to do their job, we actually had 5 accidents on hold that we just couldn't get to because all our staff was taxed. So that could take a long time to get these vehicles removed and we feel that someone is out there. They're parked on the roads. We need to do something different to try and deter that behavior.

Selectman Coutu had a question for you Steve. When I looked at the Chapter 317 and I looked at the violation and the fines, when was the last time that this was if you can remember the last time that this was even reviewed? Steve Malizia thought the last few years because I thought the parking fine used to be a lot cheaper. It was like \$5. So probably just a few maybe 5 years ago because the fine for overnight parking was pretty inexpensive and I think we went to \$20 not that long ago.

Selectman Coutu had a follow up. Does this require a public hearing? Mr. Malizia said yes. Selectman Coutu said if that were the case, I would make two recommendations and I'd like to hear from my peers on the Board what they think. When I went down the types of violations that we fine \$20 to \$25 for in each and every instance almost without exception when you go for a license, these items are clearly enunciated. You're not going to block a fire hydrant. You're going to park so many feet away from a corner. These can come up in tests. If people are that stupid, and I say that with all sincerity, if people are that stupid we should take all the fines from \$20 to \$25 and elevate them to \$100 and without exception. On the winter parking ban, we broadcast on television all winter long that there's a winter parking ban. We discuss it here and remind people time and time again. Ninety-nine percent of the people in our town are aware of it and adhere to it. It's that one or less than one percent that don't. I think that rather than bother the Police Chief or the staff at the department to have them go down to get somebody up, you have a towing company on call. You have them come and take the car out of their way because some of these trucks are coming down these streets at a good rate of speed and they need to maintain that momentum because if they don't, snow piles up on the plow and drops and leaves big piles in front of people's driveways. I would rather see them continue the practice as they have been clearing the streets as well as they have been and without any bother to Mr. Burns' crew and the Police Chief having to send a cruiser out. They should have somebody on the tow truck being able to pick up a radio and call the towing company say come to such and say 10 Rita Avenue - my address - and remove that car it's in the way. They don't make just one pass in the storm. They make several. So consistently the truck goes around that vehicle. That vehicle gets blocked in. Then they don't have as wide a path going up and down the streets.

Selectman Coutu would recommend, and I would be willing to make the motion - I won't make it now I want to hear where my peers want to go with this, that every fine from \$20 to \$25 be raised to \$100 because if you're that stupid and you're going to have these violations like parking on a sidewalk, you know you're not supposed to park on a sidewalk. It's a sidewalk not a side parking area. I would add towing to the winter parking ban along with the \$100. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman McGrath had just a couple of questions. When we have a snow event like last year we it seemed like every weekend we were having large snow events where people are having a difficult time driving. Were there a lot of cars left on the side of the road? Can you explain to me just how common a practice that is and is it because they just decide that they're going to get out and walk it's easier to park and walk home or is it because they've gotten stuck?

Chief Lavoie said the recent storm that we had on December 29th we had a total of 20 calls from the Highway Department saying hey we have this many cars out there can you guys come by and help us out with it. We issued about 110 parking tickets last year. So far since January 1st of this year we've issued 24 parking tickets for the winter ban which would be the \$20 tickets. Often times we find that some people they'll leave them out there because it makes their own snow removal easier in the morning. They'll park their vehicle in the street with the intention the DPW guys will just go by and then they'll come by later on and move that snow later on.

Selectman McGrath asked what about the idea of having a towing company on call to remove those vehicles if they're an impediment to snow removal. Chief Lavoie said we do have that option now under 317-16 removal however what happens is - I think Selectman Coutu and maybe I'm putting words in his mouth so correct me, I have a feeling that he is advocating to have the tow companies that we contract with now drive around during a snow storm and if vehicles are parked in the road remove them. I'm not sure. We have that ability now to call them and have them tow it but happens is when we're there the lights are on people see us. When the tow truck comes out now people come flying out of their house and then that can create more of an issue for us because now we're trying to mitigate that situation. The tow truck comes out they want to get paid for their time for coming out there yet to tow a vehicle at that point. It's not a perfect world but we try to mitigate them as best we can.

Selectman McGrath asked do you think by increasing the fine to \$100 would really be a deterrence to those people that park because it's convenient for them. Chief Lavoie thought for a \$100 fine that they may start to realize after a little bit that they would be better suited to leave their vehicles inside their driveways after the storm gets done, move their vehicles, plow and shovel around their own driveway, and then move their cars out of the driveway and finish their shoveling, and the back right back into the driveway versus leaving them out over night. I don't know but I know what we're doing. We need to try something different to hopefully improve the situation for the Highway guys.

Selectman McGrath didn't have a problem with this all increasing the fine. In my mind I was thinking about people like last year where the snow falls were so heavy and some people might have gotten stuck and not able to move their vehicle. So what do we do in that case? Fine them because they got stuck in a horrible storm on top of everything else.

Chief Lavoie said these are the situations where people are parked in front of their residence or someone is over to visit and they're just leaving their car there where they are able to move it. This isn't for people that when people slide off the road, that's not what this fine is for.

Selectman McGrath said all right thank you.

Selectman Luszey was actually on the same page as Selectman Coutu however I think we need to be real clear. When you read the current ordinance, it's talking about a parking ban. I believe somewhere and I don't have it and I didn't find it, the ban is overnight correct? This is not what we're talking about. We're talking about snow removal issues which is totally different. I think we need to take a look at the ordinance like what Manchester has that usually within 12 to 24 hours of a pending snow storm they put a parking ban in affect because of a snow removal issue which is different and they broadcast that. Right now I'm sure there's cars parked on the side of the road. They're going to be dropping plows shortly. We wouldn't be able to fine them because they're not overnight parking. The second part of the parking 317A talks about interference with snow clearing operations. How do you define what that is and when that occurs? How does one know when a truck is going to be coming? Is it at 1 ½ inches of snow I need to run out and move the car? So I think we need to get real clear as to what the intent is and how we would set that up and implement it. I would not feel bad at all for fining someone \$100 for violating such a snow removal type infringement.

Chairman Maddox asked Chief Lavoie I know I asked you about how much we could charge. Chief Lavoie said I was not able to find anything. I tried different types of searches and I just couldn't find anything relative to that. In regards to the conversation, I think that there were some State violations where the summons already had a State fine on it is what the reference was to. No I could not find anything specific that set up a margin if you will. I agree with Selectman Luszey. Something along the lines of - again this would only apply in instances where the Highway guys are in their snow clearing operations and often times even after when the snow stops, there is still a period of time that Kevin and his crews are out there and they're still working on the cleanup of everything.

Selectman Nichols said I'm in favor of the \$100 money because I think everyone - if they have to pay it once or twice, they're going to think twice before they do it again. That's how I look at it. I know if somebody told me I had to pay \$100, I'd do it the once but I wouldn't do it again. I'm hoping that maybe that would help you and help the road crews with their plowing. They do a beautiful job anyhow. With people parked on the road, then they have to go around hem or ask them to move or whatever. I would prefer that they be fined. I'm in favor of that.

Chairman Maddox said I'm half way in favor. I think that to go from \$20 to \$100 for parking on the sidewalk while I don't think you've probably written a lot of them. Maybe 50 is the middle ground for that and the \$100 for the parking snow clearing interference. I agree that we probably need to also amend the language to say what that means after 2

inches of snow or however we want to break that down. I think that needs to be ready for the public hearing if that's the way we want to go.

Selectman McGrath said it might not be a snow event. It might be an ice event. If it's ice, that also causes a huge problem. Putting that language that it's a snow event, I think it needs to be better defined than that. It has to be something that's clear so that everybody understands it - if it's ice on the roads, if it's snow and they're impeding the Public Works Department from actually creating a safe driving area, then that's when the fine should be implemented. Do you agree?

Chief Lavoie said I would but I would defer to Kevin Burns as to when his folks come out here and if we're going to talk amounts or types of snow, I would defer to Kevin.

Chairman Maddox asked are we ready to have a motion for the public hearing. I'm looking to see that we're not quite there yet.

Selectman McGrath said not but I think that if this is a problem and our Police Chief is coming in and telling us that it's a problem and Kevin Burns is telling us that it's a problem, we need to address this sooner rather than later because now we're in the winter months.

Selectman Coutu stated I'd be prepared to make a motion to increase the winter parking ban at the present after hearing from the other members of the Board to \$100 and send that to a public hearing. However I would like to have the Police Chief, Kevin Burns, and the Town Administrator they heard what we had to say tonight, put their heads together and look at the language carefully. I can't speak for other Board members but in listening to the conversations and the remarks made by other Board members, it would appear that there is a consensus among us that the winter parking ban obstruction and to me a winter parking ban obstruction as I understood it was the 11 to 6 or 7. That's what I understand it to be. When I think about snow clearing operations, I think of them mostly as nighttime operations. In the daytime for some people its park out in the street to go into a store because there may not be parking available on the premise. We need to clearly define at what point is it an interference and who declares the interference. Is it the tow truck driver? Is it us? Is it Kevin Burns? Is it the Police Chief? I'm just trying to avoid having to do whatever we need to do to alleviate having the Police Department send out cruisers in the middle of a storm to go wake somebody up. They shouldn't have to do that. These people should have in my opinion especially if it's during the snow clearing at night should have their vehicles removed. The Chief says that that could be problematic for the Police department, I accept that. He knows his job better than I do. We just put \$100 ticket on it and if he feels that it's no big hassle for them to go knock on the door, let him call that shot. I'm prepared to make a motion on the \$100 and send that to a public hearing and then we can work on the language as we're proceeding in that direction.

Steve Malizia wanted to make something is clear. As I understood what he was asking for, he's not asking to change the winter parking ban. He's asking to add an additional fee. Winter parking ban will still be there at \$20. This would now be a new fee called "interference with snow clearing operations at \$100". Am I correct?

Chief Lavoie said yes. I apologize if I didn't make that clear.

Selectman Coutu said the winter parking ban is whether there's snow on the ground or not. You're correct.

Steve Malizia said what you want to do is add that fee and then we have to define when that fee gets levied.

Selectman Coutu asked so what will we call that "snow clearance interfering". Mr. Malizia said "interference with snow clearing operations".

Selectman Luszey thought we'd actually be causing great confusion because now there's two things that a resident is going to have to become aware of - the winter parking ban with is 11 to 7 and then all of a sudden there's this interference with snow clearing. If you read it, and that's where I talked about it is when does that become implementable? Selectman Coutu said it would appear that its 24 hours. Selectman Luszey agreed. It's even during the day. To your point if they're out in the middle of the day plowing and there's a car on the side of the road and they have to slow down, that hurts them. They lose that forward momentum. We have work to do on this and I think the winter parking ban should include the interference of the snow clearing. It really should be a winter storm type of thing.

Chairman Maddox thought this is not ready for prime time. So before we go and make a motion to have a public hearing, the Town Administrator, the Police Chief, and the Road Agent sit down and hear our concerns and come forward.

Selectman McGrath had a question. Section 317-19 is that new or is that already in the Town Code? Steve Malizia noted it already exists. Selectman McGrath noted it's just adding a dollar amount to this. It's not changing what we already have.

Selectman Luszey's question was when do we enforce it. Chairman Maddox said that's the definition they have to work on.

Selectman McGrath said it's pretty clear to me but.

Chairman Maddox told Chief Lavoie I hate to send you away but I think before we go and post a public hearing, we need to have all of our ducks in a row even though we are covered in snow.

A. Discussion with Nashua Regional Planning Commission relative to an overview of their services

Chairman Maddox recognized NRPC Executive Director Tim Roache. Good evening Sir. For full disclosure, I'm on the NRPC Board as well as we have 3 members from the Commission - Mr. Hall from Hudson; Mr. Battis from Hudson; and the Chairman this year from Pelham Mr. Dave Hennessey.

Mr. Chairman good to see you. Tim Roache thanked the Board for having me out. The primary purpose really was to introduce myself as the Director. I've been here as a Transportation Planner. I've been here as the Assistant Director. With me tonight I have Jen Czysz who is our new Assistant Director. We'll be talking to you a little bit about our land use work. Really we've been through this a couple of times. We're a resource for you. Like any resource, it's only as good as how much you can take advantage of it. I wanted to tell you a little bit about some of the things that we have done in the last year and the biggest piece is the electricity aggregation. Hudson saved about \$53,000 in this last 8 month contract which really amounted to Steve Malizia signing a piece of paper. No other real effort I think on your part. I don't know if you'd agree with that.

Steve Malizia noted a couple of meetings here or there.

Tim Roache noted pretty quick though and a nice savings. Household hazard waste - we staff the Solid Waste Management District. That's a great benefit to the residents of the town. They get to go to 6 collection events. We had about 200 Hudson residents that participated in the collection events. It keeps tens of thousands of pounds of hazardous materials out of your stream and things you don't have to deal with. Hazard mitigation plan we've been able to keep that updated for you and I know we're talking now about maybe some additional work on that. In doing so, that keeps you eligible for pre-disaster mitigation funds from FEMA which is a great benefit.

Mr. Roache said I know you're all familiar with the transportation side of the equation and the work that we do as the MPO. Chairman Maddox commented "MPO" just for all of us...Mr. Roache apologized - Metropolitan Planning Organization. That's the federal designation for the region around Nashua that deals with the transportation plan and the administration. We started 50 years ago with this whole group coming together with Hudson and Nashua and that's how important Hudson is to this whole effort. You've been here from the get go talking about that additional crossing from the Merrimack River. It's still on the DOT's radar. The parkway that Rick you've been championing is still on the DOT's radar. We're going through a process now and trying to coordinate a regional forum to talk about that where we'd invite you folks as the leaders of Hudson to come together with the folks in Litchfield, Merrimack, and Nashua. We were waiting for Mayor Donchess to come in to office and get himself settled to have that discussion and see what we can do about that project again.

The emergency response analysis that we just did for the new fire station, Tim Roache said that's a nice project that I was glad that we could do. We could do it under the cost of your dues without any additional charge. It proved to be useful from what I understand. I think a lot of folks thought it was useful. There's some great benefit and there's more analysis like that that we have the capability to do that's probably beyond what your staff has in house and that's the type of thing that you can take advantage of as a resource.

GIS - Mr. Roache indicated is another area where I know you've made a significant investment in GIS in the town. We've had the opportunity to have our GIS Manager Sara come out and work with your staff and help you make sure that that's up to where you want it to be. That's something that we can do is not just provide a service but technical support like that. If you need help or if someone in the town needs help with the GIS system, we're there to help you out and step in with that. I know you came on board to do tax mapping which I know I've heard there was some confusion on that. There was an initial fee for that to get your data into our system but moving forward there's no charge for updates annually which will in the end save the town money over the years with us doing the updates. So there's a lot of ideas that we work on for you.

Tim Roache noted the pipeline was a big issue obviously for the town. I just heard a gentleman here speaking about intervener status but Rick as you know we did a lot of work with the members of the 13 communities coming together with our Energy Facilities Advisory Committee. Created an enormous amount of information really neutral factual information that I hope I know you discussed the project and I know you've taken a position in opposition and I hope that information was useful to you in helping you formulate that position. I think it's been beneficial to a lot of communities as we move through this process. I know you're going to discuss it next but NRPC is filing for intervener status tomorrow. I should have our motion up on the docket so however you decide to deal with that if you do decide

to go ahead and be interveners, we have a model. Steve don't go recreating it. Give us a call and we can hand that off to you and it should be pretty quick and save you a lot of time.

Mr. Roache said the land use program I was going to let Jen talk a little bit about.

Jen Czys noted I'm going to send around two handouts. The first of which is the executive summary to our recently adopted regional plan. The second is highlights from what we're calling the state-wide snapshot. That also includes a series of resources available for municipalities as an insert. I'll talk a little bit more about both of these items.

Ms. Czys indicated we started our regional plan process at about four years ago now. It was a three year process. We started by looking to the local master plans from all the communities within our regions trying to identify what local goals were and then what we could do to help you achieve those goals. We looked at housing, economic development, transportation, environment, and how all of these sectors interrelate with one another. We did this whole process working in collaboration and simultaneous with the 8 other Regional Planning Commissions in the State of New Hampshire. By doing so, we were able to divvy up some of the workload and each region does a little bit more than they would other ways been able to do. So what we divvied up was some of those common elements - doing the background research, pulling together a lot of those data elements and items. Those things we had all tabulated at the municipal level and have put all on line so that they're available for you to go download and use for your own planning purposes. You'll see it in that handout there's a summary of a planning matrix gateway and that has Excel downloads as well as a GIS data viewer that displays those elements from those common data items that are best suited to mapping.

Jen Czys said I'm going to pull it back to that regional plan. We took all this research, all of this data analysis and then we added to that the most comprehensive and robust outreach process I think we've ever engaged in. We reached about 1,800 people across the region, had about 120 different events. We've got a lot of that feedback and information cataloged in a database coded so that if you wanted to know what folks in your community are saying about housing, we can pull and extract that information. That all is what became the foundation for our regional plan. So now that translates to having ready resources right at our fingertips that you can take advantage of for any of your local planning projects, work that your planning staff is doing, your Planning Board is doing. We've likely got some information right at our fingertips that we can help you out with.

Tim Roache hoped that you can turn to us for that information first and make sure that John or anyone else in the staff isn't going to go reinventing anything that we already have. That handout is a good resource that we've been sharing around for folks to do that. Really a couple last points and I certainly can ask some questions if you'd like. We try to be that forum for things like the pipeline. These projects that transcend municipal boundaries that don't just impact Hudson that we all have to think about as a region and make sure that the role that we took there and Rick as you've said a couple of times that where NRPC has really been a neutral resource for that project which is I think a great benefit to the region and to Hudson as well.

Finally Tim Roache said being a voice. Sometimes it's better to have 13 communities talk about an issue with the same message when we're all on the same page than it is for 13 separate voices coming out of the area. A good example of that is moving the tolls on the Everett Turnpike. We came together as a group on that and sort of supported Merrimack in that case but where the 13 communities came together and said you know we don't think it's a good idea to move that toll booth down into Merrimack. The DOT listened and its staying put in Bedford. So there's items like that that we can help influence and I hope you can take advantage of it and continue to reach out to us and maybe a good working relationship with Steve, and John Cashell, and others in town. Elvis has been really helpful as well.

Chairman Maddox said as a Commissioner, I think that the NRPC has changed over the last half dozen 10 years. There is more than one person saying no on the Commission. I for the longest time was probably one of the few. I think that there is a real debate going on. I think that you've got a different mix than there was years ago. Again I think that this is a resource that we may not have taken full advantage of to get our monies out Selectman Coutu. Just the NED project, the gas line project. He is a representative from Kermit Williams. Mr. Williams spent an inordinate amount of time putting together all the facts and figures to present to the full Commission and it was right down the middle. There was no for or against. His town is not impacted one way or the other but he put in a great report that made the NRPC, again, a neutral ground for information. There are plenty of groups that will tell you this is a great thing and plenty of groups that will say this is a bad thing. I'm glad to see that the NRPC after much discussion it wasn't as simple as yes or no. There was a story debate as I understand. I missed that meeting but Mr. Hennessey is going to come up and talk to that one. Again I think they're a resource that we should use more of. I'm saying here and I've said at the meetings, I think the next thing is trying to utilize them as a resource for grant writing. We don't want to spend the money but if that was put into a small fee into our dues or whatever, I think that could be a benefit to Hudson. The GIS that every time it was mentioned by the IT Director here, we all kind of shook our heads, rolled our eyes, and it's a very good product now because there's somebody to do it. If folks at home are still watching, there is on line that you can go to the NRPC website and you can see the GIS. It is very informative. It's pretty up to date. It is something that again the homeowner can use. It is there to be able to use whether they're looking at houses in Hudson or they're looking to see what improvements are scheduled. Just all the road projects

that are going on. Again great resources at NRPC. I am proud to be a member. I guess some days there's days where they're probably not proud to have me as a member but that's okay. I think that they are a regional thing and we kind of lose focus sometimes. The good thing is it's no longer always being driven by DOT. There are other factors in there now that make this a group that I think as much as we balk at the price are a reasonable value.

Dave Hennessey said the reason I came up here was to address your comments about your being sometimes a nay sayer and other members from Hudson putting their two cents in. I just want to thank you as the Chair and the other members from Hudson for the part that you play at the Nashua Regional Planning Commission. I'm trying to make these meetings and come out and I'll let these guys talk about the products that we have and what we're offering to the towns but I'm here as the Chair to just publicly thank the towns for participating in the exchange of ideas that I really think is the backbone of NRPC. When you say you're a nay sayer or you say no, that's not really true Richard. I've been to your meetings. You're participating and your acting in the exchange of ideas is so vital I think to the whole region and we provide that forum and you especially provide the input into that process. I just want to thank you.

Selectman Coutu thought we waste \$19,000 but I'll hear what the others have to say before I summarize what I've heard which is basically nothing.

Selectman Luszey was a past member of the NRPC many, many years ago. My focus was trying to keep the NRPC focused on transportation. There's a lot of work that was focused in the downtown Nashua area, 101, 101A out into Milford we could not get anything done to address the critical need to improve getting across the river. I won't say it's a waste of \$19,000 but I don't think we really get our monies worth when it comes to the most critical need we have and that is improving the transportation access across the river. I'd like to hear a little bit about what your plan is to address that and get some forward momentum going on improving that situation. A roundabout over on East Hollis is not the solution.

Tim Roache didn't think that was going to happen. It's a good point with regards to your question on how are we going to get this moving. We're not getting a bridge across the river until people on both sides of the river can agree to have a bridge across the river. That's the very first step and that's the whole point of asking - we're going to ask you folks and the Town Council in Merrimack, the Selectmen in Litchfield, and either the Aldermen or the Mayor of Nashua depending on how they decide to handle it to come together and have that discussion in a room with us and NH DOT. That's the first stop. You know the discussions I've had with DOT they are anxious to address this because they have land on their books that they need to move. They don't want to keep that land that they had for the circumferential highway if nothing is going to happen. The discussions that I've had would suggest that its part of the turnpike system and it would be a tolled facility to pay for the actual construction.

Selectman Luszey said if you were to answer this as a yes/no question is the transportation need addressing circumferential highway the number one top priority of the NRPC. It's a yes or no question. Tim Roache said just from the transportation perspective? Here's the thing. All right fine. Selectman Luszey said is it yes or no? Is it the number one? Mr. Roache said no it's not. Selectman Luszey said that's why for me it's not worth the money.

Tim Roache asked to add to that. I'm the Director. I help bring the people together and bring a process together. It's your role to come to that table and advocate for that to be the number one project. If that's what you want, Rick come on up, bang the table, you do a great job, make it that. That's what this is about. This is about a forum for you, everyone to come together and make these things happen. It seems to think there's an expectation that it's me or my staff that can make it happen.

Dave Hennessey noted last week or two weeks ago I went to Mont Vernon - a hillside town that looks like it should be in Italy. They sat there and they said basically that they liked some of the services that we provide at NRPC but they felt that the issues that are being brought up and they specifically talk about crossing the river, and they talked about some of the rail issues, and they talked about 101A which I run into every single day, and they said basically that doesn't affect us. I pointed out I'm a realtor. I can tell you that your people who live in Mont Vernon are affected by the traffic mess caused by the lack of connections to the highway to get south to people's jobs. That's the reason they don't buy houses in Mont Vernon. We've had that situation. I can tell you that crossing the river with all due respect doesn't just affect Hudson and Nashua because I've got people stuck over here on Sherburne Road trying to get over the bridge to get to the highway. The idea is we need to create more of a forum in order to create the alliances that can get the region noticed with the powers that be. The question frankly was unfair because Nashua Regional Planning isn't just about transportation with all due respect to the way it was. We've been much broader and there are other issues. The alliances that I think are needed to get these things done are we're your members and representatives need to speak up - and certain Richard does - and get involved in our forum because that's what these meetings are all about. I don't mean to argue. I really do value Hudson's participation and frankly I'm agreeing with you sitting here in traffic on Sherburne Road as I cross the river every single day heading out to Amherst through the mess that our transportation system is right now.

Selectman Coutu said I'm ready and with all due respect. I know that you're all professionals. I'm sure you've heard the clamor I've made over the past couple of years that I think we're wasting \$19,000 every year as a member of NRPC and I'll tell you why frankly. I go on line every time you send us a notice that there's information available on

line for whatever NRPC does - a capsulation of what is forthcoming and what you've done. Maybe twice a year I see the town name "Hudson" appear other than the collections in Nashua which I think we could negotiate that on our own brining batteries, paints, and what not. I look at things like you broadcast and you say you know we saved you money by forming a consortia so that we could save electricity. The Town of Tyngsboro by itself which is much smaller than us, the Town of Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, just entered into an agreement this week and their town is going to save \$58,000 as a sole entity and no consortia of towns and you saved us how much by being a consortia, \$60,000. A hair over \$60,000. We can do that on our own. That's nothing that we need Nashua Regional Planning Commission to do but you boost about that. So I said that's not much to boast about. I did it as a private businessman. I cut my electric bill, not my consumption my electric bill, by \$600 a month by negotiating my own terms with a private provider.

The GIS mapping, Selectman Coutu said you'd done some GIS mapping but it irked me no end that you charge us \$3,000 for the tax mapping. I thought this should have been a service that you provide but no you didn't. You charged us an additional \$3,000 for it. That irked me so now we pay \$22,000 to NRPC.

You talked about the parkway from the Sagamore Bridge, to the Merrimack River over on Selectman Coutu believed the crossing would take us into Merrimack correct if that route were to exist as it was initially proposed. I don't know what's taking NRPC so long to realize that there are traffic woes outside of Nashua. Every time I picked up the Nashua Telegraph there's something going on in Nashua that you're involved in in some major way or some small way either as advising on the side or throwing not the weight of your commission behind it but assistance that maybe available. They have a beautiful parkway that just opened up not too long ago. Did you have any involvement in that? Tim Roache said absolutely yeah. Selectman Coutu noted we've been waiting how long now for the Sagamore extension over the Merrimack River and Nashua got theirs right away. It was years of work I understand. I understand.

Selectman Coutu commented Chairman Maddox and I went to Nashua and met with the Mayor and her staff relative to the proposed roundabout and how it would impact us. Chairman Maddox made some recommendations that I supported. Steve Malizia came with us too. We were concerned about how the roundabout not necessarily the roundabout but an existing problem is how we get across this bridge when trains are going across and crossing into Nashua. Is there a remedy? Is anybody looking at a remedy? Would the roundabout help? No. Trains are still going to cross when you go further down Canal Street or wherever you're going. The tracks run in that direction. You spend a lot of time developing a train station in Nashua. I don't know that you spend a lot of time. I'm sure you've worked on it. You've looked at it. You've looked at the impact of having a train station in Nashua.

Another thing that we have to factor in and maybe this is going to be news to an awful lot of people and maybe it's news to you and maybe it's not news to you but very shortly Selectman Coutu said there will be a bridge that's going to cross the Merrimack River from Tyngsboro to Tyngsboro on the south end of our town and that's very close to coming off the drawing boards and becoming a reality. It is going to be done. That is seriously going to impact - that is going to come in it's probably going to take out the entire and I think Selectman McGrath knows exactly where I'm talking about the seniors housing project in Tyngsboro just over the line will be completely removed. That will be an access way to Frost Road. From Frost Road that bridge is going to cross over just beyond Ayotte's and cut a straight line across to the Merrimack River and across and just south of the mall. That bridge is going to happen. That's going to severely impact traffic flow into Tyngsboro, into Hudson on this side of the river as well and if they're using that as a shortcut to avoid the Sagamore and they're going to go up River Road to Lowell Road, now the jam that we have on Lowell Road where it bottlenecks from two lanes down to one is going to be severely impacted by the south to northerly flow of all of that traffic. We need to address and you will make me a very happy camper and I'll feel we're getting a lot more than \$19,000 if you will jump on board with us and not us jump on board with you.

Selectman Coutu commented the Town Administrator, Selectman Maddox, Speaker of the House Shawn Jasper when he was a Selectman and I have made many trips to DOT. The problem with DOT is they change Commissioners as quickly as you can pour another cup of coffee and I know that's a serious problem. It was a serious problem with Governor Lynch. He was a personal friend of mine and gave us pretty much an open door access to his office and when we called and we had a problem with DOT, it was resolved within days. Maggie Hassan promised me and I have her cell phone number. An open door policy with her and it hasn't happened. She governs in a different way. I'm neither condemning her or plodding her it's just from my perspective as a representative of the people of the Town of Hudson, she has not been responsive. We met with the new Commissioner at our last meeting and that was a year ago. He's gone. He said to us that he would consider taking another look at the parkway from Sagamore Bridge to the Merrimack River on the condition that we realize that this would be a toll road. That parcel of land from the Sagamore Bridge all the way across 111 and 102 which are also nightmares for us 111 and 102. It alleviates significantly the traffic flow southerly into Nashua to get onto Route 3. It would be a tremendous benefit to those residents from Litchfield south and from center of town north who want to get onto the Highway. It would remove a lot of the problems we have over here as well as the south end of town. He made it clear to us that it would have to be a toll road because they have to satisfy the bond holders of that parcel of land which is a long stretch. It is the proposed roadway. They have to be satisfied. My gut reaction to that was so what. Let's make it a toll road. What are you going to charge a buck from beginning to end? Charge a buck and if people want to take a shortcut, they'll take it and if they don't they won't. I would bet money that more than 50 percent would take it. As people speak about it and said wow I saved a lot of time it was worth the buck, more and more

people will like it. I know that initially to say well we need to satisfy the bondholders who own that property or who bonded for the State to buy that property. After they get paid, they're going to continue with the toll. Well you know they said that about the bridge going into Portsmouth. They said the same thing about other toll roads - oh those were paid for years ago but they're still charging a toll.

Selectman Coutu said if you would get on board because that is the number one greatest traffic nightmare that we have is Lowell Road and I don't want to have it compounded with what they proposed to do coming across Tyngsboro. One of the things that we fail as a municipality is that I don't think we put enough thought or planning into what is going to take place in the future and in some instances the near future. We are not proactive. We have become a reactive town and its time that this Board or a future Board starts looking and sit down with our Town Planner, and with our Town Engineer, with our Town Administrator and we start preplanning and not go into crisis mode when something as catastrophic to me. It's catastrophic thinking about that bridge coming across from Tyngsboro to Tyngsboro and adding all that additional traffic to the south end of town and that's exactly what it's going to do again which will impact everything coming north.

All Selectman Coutu asks is maybe me personally as an individual maybe I have failed the town by not going to an NRPC meeting. Chairman Maddox has asked me time and time again why don't you come. Why don't you come? Well the lunches aren't that inviting for me to go. No I'm not interested in the lunch but I can appreciate what a regional commission the amount of work that is involved for a regional commission. It isn't all about Hudson. It's about all of the towns that you represent. I've sat here for 8 years frustrated over that pile of dirt at the end of the Sagamore Bridge which is supposed to be the crossover of Lowell Road and coming down and saying nothing is getting done and NRPC could give two hoots about it. They're more interested in a parkway in Nashua, and some other plan up in Merrimack, and something else in some other town that's paying you 19, 20, 50,000 or whatever they give you. Then I look at your salary structure for administration and I say wow we're just hiring a bunch of people to shuffle papers and Hudson is not getting a piece of the shuffle. That's all I have to say.

Tim Roache stated I'd be happy to come on board with your ask. We're the...Selectman Coutu said I would be happy to go to you to propose to the full commission and I like the idea of it needs to be a regional plan and poll everybody together and have everybody on board. If Merrimack doesn't want to be a piece of the pie, then we have a problem. I understand that. Mr. Roache indicated what you just said is exactly what we need. We need your passion to come to the table to get these issues.

Selectman Coutu said when it comes to our traffic flow on Lowell Road, I have a lot of passion because I sit through it like everyone else. Dave Hennessey said I sit through it too. When the feds came in to talk to us about the highway plan, one of the things that I brought up to them was the necessity for the feds to get involved with the regional commissions of both Massachusetts and New Hampshire or these cross boarder issues. We run into it in Pelham at the foot of Sherburne Road which absolutely affects Hudson as well as you get stuck in that stupid traffic coming down south with all the Massachusetts residents cutting right and all the residents in Pelham sitting there in line for 20 minutes trying to get home. We've got that now on the agenda for the 10 year plan. It does affect Hudson people trying to go east heading out towards 93 and going that way. What happens is that nobody is talking to each other. When that huge project - you guys don't see it so much on this side of the ridge but that huge project in Methuen 110/113 that's being built now and making it a nightmare for folks to hit 93. What's happening is folks with a choice depending on where they work on 495 and on 128, they're coming down Lowell Road now and going on Route 3. There's part of your answer as to why the traffic has increased over here. I see it every morning. Folks I used to see heading out to 93 are now heading this way because they can't get through that silly intersection that looks like the Big Dig replicated. These pieces all do fit together. It isn't just Hudson. It isn't just Pelham. It isn't just Nashua. We're all in this together guys. We really are.

Chairman Maddox asked Mr. Plaza you have something to add to this discussion Sir?

Nate Plaza said yes Sir. Many, many years ago I moved a house for this circumferential highway. How I was notified that my house was going to be involved was the newspaper, the Nashua Telegraph. I was at work and they said well your house is going to go up for the highway. Well low and behold I went to Concord, talked to DOT, and they said you were supposed to be notified. All the residents were supposed to get notified of this meeting. I said I wasn't. I found out by the newspaper. I said to them well what's going to happen now? Well your house is going to be used for the rotary. I said well that's nice. What do I do with my house? Well we're going to take it. I said no I want to buy it back. So low and behold we made an agreement to buy this house back and I moved it across the street. Well the highway never came through. So there I am with another house that moved. I asked them why is this being changed. What's going on up here in Concord? Well he said we had a plan to put a bridge in the south end, a bridge in the middle across all the railroad tracks and build one in Litchfield. Then I said well why wasn't it done? Well the Mayor of Nashua lived in Crown Hill and he said over my dead body will this highway be put in or this bridge in the south end be put in. That was the end of the plan. That's why we don't have what we wanted today all these bridges and all these crossings. So we're stuck. Now what do we do? How do we correct it?

Chairman Maddox said to the Commissions credit like I said when I first got on if DOT went to a meeting and said we're all going up to the roof and you're all going to jump off, they would have been putting on the yellow shirts and

jumping off. This group of people at NRPC and it's not jump me. There's a number of them. There's a good of number them - a majority as a matter of fact said no when the DOT wanted to move the toll booths that they just built in Bedford, tear them down, and relocate them in Merrimack. We said this doesn't make any sense. To their credit, NRPC said no. To DOT's credit they I guess acquiesced and said okay. The problem is not the toll booths; it's the bottleneck where it goes down to two lanes. If they widened that, we felt that the problem would go away. Hopefully that's what will happen. Again I think that the DOT top down has changed somewhat. Hopefully a meeting from you just going to one meeting should change all of that and you will get moving on the Maddox Madness Parkway as it is sometimes affectionately called to be able to get the traffic alleviated. You ran a model as I understand it that said "Lowell Road traffic would drop by 40 percent."

Tim Roache stated that parkway would have huge benefits to the traffic on Lowell Road and just coming through the center of town here. We know it. Everyone knows it. Chairman Maddox noted we can't build Lowell Road 8 lanes wide. Mr. Roache indicated you don't want to. Chairman Maddox said this is the solution. Again I think you've heard from us what our priority is and we appreciate what you do do whether the price is right or not. I think that we have to be involved. I know that Mr. Hall and Mr. Battis are there regularly. I try to be. It is a group that has changed so let's see if we can hopefully satisfy you and I will keep inviting you.

Selectman Coutu said I'll go. If I think it's going to get in that direction, I'll be there.

B. Kinder Morgan Pipeline - Intervener Status

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said the town has the opportunity if the Board would like to file intervener status with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. I believe the deadline that I saw was the 16th of January. So it is this week obviously. Basically what that would allow the town to do is actually have some legal standing with the whole process. I believe there are many entities and many other organizations that have applied for intervener status but this puts you in a class that you get notice, you get certain rights, you can I believe question the decision that FERC makes. It doesn't appear to have any costs and from my perspective it would appear to be beneficial to at least keep our hand on our own fate sort to speak. I would recommend that you approve filing for intervener status.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to file for intervener status on the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company Northeast Energy Direct Project, FERC Docket Number CP16-21-000, carried 5-0.

Tim Roache asked to speak. The one thing to Steve and I wanted to make sure you're aware of is when you go through with it if you do weigh in on any of the...Steve Malizia said you have to notify everybody. Mr. Roache indicated there's about 1,500 to 2,000 interveners right now. You have to do it all by e-mail so just make sure your IT people are aware that you can send that many e-mails if and only if you guys decide to do something with the conversation. You can get all the information but if you have something to say, you're sending it to about 2,000 people so just make sure your IT staff is aware. Mr. Malizia said that was articulated in the rules. I did catch that.

C. Dedication of the Annual Report

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said for your consideration we're getting to that time of year where we prepare the Annual Report. Typically there is usually a dedication or at least a recognition of citizens that have an impact or served the community of Hudson and I had the staff keep track during the year. These are some folks who have been involved in our community. If you choose to dedicate the report of any or all of them, that is up to you.

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Malizia to please refresh my memory because we have either the obituary or we personally know. Mr. Malizia said Mr. Keeney was a Selectman. Selectman Coutu understood that. Jerry was a volunteer and Mr. Turcotte served I believe on the Planning Board. Did we clear that up? There was a not about asking Selectman McGrath about was it the Planning Board? Selectman McGrath said yes. He was on the Planning Board and Mr. Nour was on the Zoning Board. Selectman Coutu said it was Mr. Nour. I couldn't remember. Mr. Malizia believed he was I believe an alternate back in the early '03, '04 somewhere in that range.

Selectman McGrath stated there's another person that should be added to this list however there's a caveat to that. The person who passed away didn't want anyone to know. So before adding that name to this list, I'd like to contact the family to find out whether or not she should be added. She was active in the town for a number of years in different capacities - served on the Town Council at one point, Water Utility, Library. Very active but before I say the name, I'd like to contact the family and find out whether or not it would be appropriate to honor her.

Selectman Coutu asked what is the time frame on this. When does this go to the printer? Steve Malizia said not until after the Deliberative Session. I just wanted to give you the heads up now. You don't have to do it tonight but I wanted you to at least be thinking about it.

Selectman Luszey commented which is about the 21st or something like that.

Selectman Coutu said if there's no objection Mr. Chairman I make a motion.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to dedicate the 2015 Annual Report to Phyllis M. Keeney, Gerald 'Jerry' Desrosiers, Jr., Richard Turcotte II, Octav Nour, and a caveat that should between now and press time an additional name or names come forward that the Board will add them.

Chairman Maddox said I'm having a tough time with saying yes to somebody we don't know who it is. Selectman Coutu said we're not saying yes. Chairman Maddox wanted to hold off until the workshop. Selectman Coutu wanted to approve these four and get this behind us. If another name comes forward, we can make another motion. It's not a big deal.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

D. Petitioned Warrant Article(s)

Chairman Maddox stated I'm going to skip this because that has passed and it did not apply.

Steve Malizia noted we have not petition articles for the viewing public. I don't believe the school received any today either. Today was the deadline for both.

E. Fiscal Year 2017 Town Warrant and Warrant Article Speaker Designation

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

In preparation for the upcoming Deliberative Session voting, Steve Malizia said I've taken the liberty of putting together the warrant to put these back. Basically we put them together in order and trying to follow a practice that we've followed in the past. I've got two things here. I've actually got the order with this starting on page 3. You'll see the warrant but then I also have the speaker assignments. At the Deliberative Session generally speaking the liaison to a department and/or representative to a union contract would get up and introduce the article for the voting public. So as past practice, I've taken a look at your liaison assignments and if you negotiated a contract, you were designated as the speaker to introduce the article. What I've prepared is the list which you've approved in the past by consensus but I've also done the warrant anticipating this would be the order. You're free to change the order if you'd like but again this is my attempt to give you the order of the warrant.

Selectman Coutu noted I'm fine with it.

Steve Malizia believed you've made a motion in the past to approve the order; the consensus for the other document is fine.

Selectman McGrath commented I read this over and I certainly don't have any problem with how you've compiled this and who speaks to what. However when reading this for the fire station, I want it perfectly clear because I thought I already made it perfectly clear, I voted for this to go on the warrant so that the citizens had an opportunity to vote on it. That was the only reason why I voted for it. I do not support that article. I just want to make sure that that's clear because it's showing its recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0 and the only recommendation was for me was to put it on the warrant so that the people could vote on it.

Chairman Maddox said after Deliberative Session if you are still not convinced, we have a meeting which you can then change your vote to opposition. I think that may change on a couple of these as we exit Deliberative Session. Selectman McGrath asked will that take place at the Deliberative Session. Mr. Malizia commented we have a special meeting because something may or may not change during the Deliberative Session which may or may not change your opinion or you may just change your opinion. You'll have one more opportunity to make a different..Chairman Maddox said that is the vote that goes in the book.

Just for clarity for the process, Selectman Luszey noted the Board of Selectmen will meet and if they have any changes they'll vote on it. Right after they are done, the Budget Committee convenes and they revote on any one that they feel because that is what goes to the ballot. Selectman McGrath noted that's what would appear on the ballot then. I'm fine with that then. I just wanted to make it clear because I thought that I made that clear when we talked about this initially.

Chairman Maddox asked you see your assignments. Everybody is fine with speaking to the articles?

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve the order of the Fiscal Year 2017 Town Warrant, carried 5-0.

Just as a point for the new member, Steve Malizia said I traditionally do a page summary. I try to prepare something to give you a head start. I'll give it to you in advance so that at least it gives you some basic facts about the article. You're free to edit it, change it, ask me questions but I try to give you something so you don't walk up there unprepared. You'll all have that in advance. Sometimes there's a lot of facts and stuff. I'm just trying to get the salient facts out.

Selectman Coutu commented Steve has been a tremendous asset to me in the past. Chairman Maddox noted the facts that you can wing with facts. Selectman Coutu said he does provide facts and I like winging some of the facts as long as I tell the people straight up what's going on.

F. Designation of a Selectman to Post the Town Warrant

Chairman Maddox asked does anyone want to volunteer to be the poster. You just have to put it up at the library, Town Hall. Steve Malizia noted we put it up at the polling place, the Community Center, here. We've traditionally put it up at the Library and the Post Office. Those are the places we've traditionally posted it.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to designate Selectman Nichols, to post the Fiscal Year 2017 Town Warrant and Budget on or before January 25, 2016, carried 5-0.

G. Revenues and Expenditures

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said we are 50 percent of the way through the year. This is through December. So obviously that's a pretty easy math. Again things continue to look pretty reasonable. From an expense perspective I did take a look at them. Obviously we haven't had too many snow/winter events so we're still looking pretty good there. A lot of times we encumber monies again for trash contracts and other big ticket items which tend to make the percentages look higher than 50 percent.

From a revenue perspective, Mr. Malizia said it looks like we're having a pretty good year. That motor vehicle even though we've bumped it up is still going pretty well for us. Even the anemic interest is better than planned. Overall I have to say right now things look pretty reasonable. I took a look through it just line by line because we're half way through. It looks - knock on wood - things are going way.

Selectman Luszey noted on the second half may not be as good because last year was a banner year for new car sales. I don't expect that to go forward.

Mr. Malizia commented even the price of gas right now is helping us.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Town Administrator - Just briefly. We replaced the roof at the recreation building at Oakwood and with the rain it held up well. They seem to do a good job. We got that task accomplished. Just so you know, I've made it through this past weekend's rain. Just another note to the folks out there, we are closed at Town Hall next Monday in observation of Martin Luther King holiday so if you have any business, you want to take care of it Friday but we will be back Tuesday.

Because we received no petitioned Warrant Articles, Steve Malizia believed there will not be a budget hearing next Tuesday. Selectman Luszey said we'd have to check with the school side. I'm not sure. Mr. Malizia was pretty sure they didn't get one. Patti would have had it certified. No additional no reason for that. Our Deliberative Session will be here February 6th. It's coming.

Selectman Nichols - I have nothing to add other than I went to the meeting last night. I was impressed. It went fairly well. I don't say I'd put that on my top excitement but it was a good meeting. I stayed for the whole thing. That's all I have to say.

Selectman Luszey - Just that we did have our public hearing for the budget. It went in terms of a public hearing very quickly. If you were to scan the crowd, I was somewhat disappointed. The majority of the people there were either board members or employees of the town. The public really I wish would come out and participate in these meetings. Other than that, it was very uneventful. Four speakers spoke. It was that quick.

Chairman Maddox stated the format was kind of restrictive inasmuch that you had public input and you went right into the article. Unless somebody wanted to speak about Article 12 at the beginning it became I think - in years past they had...Selectman Coutu said on the town side. On the school side, he invited everybody to come up with each warrant article. It was altogether just the opposite for the school side. I thought it was unfair that they weren't allowed to do it on the town side but they were allowed to do it on the school side. The town side like you said he opened it up to

public input. You could speak on whatever. Speaker Jasper spoke about the library and then he sat down. Then there was a question during one of the warrant articles and said Mr. Chairman can I get up and talk about this and they said no that's done. We're in the voting mode. On the school side when they presented the school warrant articles, he opened it up each one for discussion before they went into voting mode. I'm sitting there saying wow that's so unfair why did that happen. He's new to the process and I don't think anybody helped him along. I think if John Drabinowicz had been there he would have excited the process a little bit.

Selectman Luszey said the only other comment I have out of that and it deals with Speaker of the House Jasper. The statement that he made last night about the Library Trustees doing a formal vote through e-mail, I believe we should ask the Library Trustees to come in and talk to us about that and to find out what they intend to do about it or should we do a formal filing with our legal counsel about that? That is a violation of the 91:1 A 3.

Selectman McGrath asked can you explain to me what you're talking about because I wasn't there and I was...Selectman Luszey explained the Library Trustees held a meeting through e-mail and they took a formal vote to approve I think it was overtime. Steve Malizia said raises. Selectman Luszey said which is in violation of the Right to Know. That meeting was not held in public. It was held in private by e-mail. Selectman McGrath stated which is even more bizarre than having like face time or whatever it is that you do - Skype or whatever you call it. Selectman Luszey believed we owe it to the Hudson residents to hold him accountable.

Chairman Maddox thought this is actually a realm for the Ethics Committee. I don't think this is - we can ask them in but they don't work for us. I think the Ethics Committee would be the place to take this.

Selectman Coutu agreed. I think it's very difficult. We don't control their budget. They're an autonomous board. They can dictate whatever they want. However I will say this I watch their meetings. I miss very few of them. It is not the first time that I've heard mention of contacting people by phone or by e-mail to decide on items of importance to the library. This has become from my perspective anyway just listening to what they're saying, this has become a habit with them that they're just making decisions out of the public realm and that is a direct violation of the ethics rules. I think that I would support us sending a letter to the Ethics Committee which has never met. Maybe we'll spark a little life in them and suggest that maybe they should conduct an investigation and call them in and see whether or not they violated the open meeting law and the Right to Know.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to have the Board of Selectmen send a letter to the Ethics Committee to conduct an investigation to see if the Library Trustees violated the open meeting law and the Right to Know Law, carried 5-0.

Selectman Coutu - Two things. I was going to talk about last night but enough said about that. Election registration I noticed there's a potential candidate for Selectman in the audience. If you want to file to run for public office, I believe that it will be posted. I know there's two Selectmen seats up. Steve Malizia said it's on our web page if you click on the line. You can see the vacancies. Selectman Coutu knew there was some Budget Committee seats that are coming up. All of the positions that are going to be challenged or contested you may register to run for office I believe it's from January 20th to the 29th. So from the 20th of January at the time Town Hall opens at 8:00 a.m. until the 29th at 5:00 p.m. you can file your papers. If you file them early and you decide to withdraw them, you can also I believe withdraw them prior to the 29th. We should get an interpretation. Somebody mentioned to me what if I change my mind. I said you have to change your mind before the filing deadline. Mr. Malizia noted they should ask the Town Clerk when they have to file their papers. She knows all the rules. I don't want to misspeak. Selectman Coutu encouraged people to run for public office. I'm not going to live or die by whether or not I get re-elected. If I do, I do. The people like what I do or they don't like what I do. You make friends. You make enemies. I welcome anyone who wants to run for Selectmen or Budget Committee. The more new people who participate, the greater we need to have a good diverse opinion. Sometimes some people think we're stale. Sometimes people think we're entertaining and that's why we get re-elect because we entertain. We're not here to entertain. We're here to represent the best interests of the people and I hope that other people have a penchant to want to serve their community. I know running for office is not often a pleasurable thing and it's not often - you have to be dedicated to come here and sit at meetings whether you're here, the Planning Board, God love you two with your Planning Board, and ZBA. I don't know how you do it but you have a lot of work and I'm proud to serve with both of you because of the amount of time you put into our government. So you're welcome to register January 20th to the 29th.

Lastly, Selectman Coutu said this Saturday is the beginning of the journey to the Super Bowl. Go Pats.

Selectman McGrath - I have one thing. I attended the Conservation Commission meeting last night and there was a discussion about placing signs on the trails at Musquash and the Town Forest. Some of the verbiage the signs that we were looking at included hunting on the properties. I questioned the policy of that and whether or not we have one and also if there's any liability issues related to that. If someone is walking along using it as passive recreation and all of a sudden a bullet goes whizzing past their face that could pose a problem. Is there any way that we can find out whether or not we have policies regarding that now and what the liability issues would be relative to the town? Steve Malizia knows the State regulates hunting. We'd have to see if we have any ordinances I'm not aware of without looking through the books.

Selectman Coutu stated the State rules supersede any local laws you can put on the books relative to hunting as long as you're 200 feet away from a private resident and you're on public land, you have the right to hunt. Chairman Maddox noted unless it's posted that's why we did that in Benson Park. Every 75 feet or something remember we had to do that for Benson Park. Selectman Coutu said they want to allow hunting at the State Forest because I know like say the Dracut Town Forest for example in Tyngsboro you can go in there and hunt. There's walking trials. It's a risk you take and the hunter is liable. If the hunter is shooting...

Selectman McGrath asked can we just get clarification of that from Town Attorney regarding our liability issues if it is allowed. Selectman Luszey said no we're not liable because we're governmental.

Selectman Coutu asked Selectman McGrath do they want to post signs allowing hunting in both of those Musquash and...as Selectman McGrath understood it yes. Chairman Maddox said they wouldn't have to do. Steve Malizia said you'd post it if you don't want to allow it. Chairman Maddox reiterated it's allowed unless we post it otherwise. Selectman Coutu asked what were they going to say hunting allowed or no hunting. Selectman McGrath thought we needed some clarification. I told him that I would raise the issue. I had the question about the liability for the town if someone gets hurt by a gunshot does that present a liability for us. There were a number of signs that they're considering. One is no hunting but I think the general consensus was that hunting is allowed.

Chairman Maddox asked Selectman McGrath could you get with the Town Administrator and see what he could find out.

Selectman Maddox - A couple of things now. For those of you that may have a nap earlier and didn't hear the scintillating conversation, we do have an overnight parking ban. Especially tonight with some snow it would be appreciated if you are parked out on the street to be able to get the plows through. As you heard earlier, that has become more and more of a problem. Again I think we haven't thought about it because it is now midway into January and we haven't seen a lot of white stuff.

Next - voting. Chairman Maddox noted the date has been set. Are all of you going to be able to make the February 9th adventure? 12,000 of your closest friends will be through the Community Center. Maybe for some of those people who want to run can come down and work the polls with us because it's a good time.

Next - Planning Board. Chairman Maddox was just trying to get some input from this Board. Mr. Cashell called me all excited as Mr. Cashell is known to be. Somebody had called and was looking to be able to put a building 50 foot high in the Sagamore Industrial Park. So I said let's put it before the Planning Board whatever. It's only for the Sagamore Industrial Park. We already have several buildings in there at 50 feet or taller. We just had one for 65. As Mr. Cashell explained it to me, it was a function of these people didn't want to have that. That they had to go to get a variance. They wanted to know that that was allowed by zoning. We already have them. It's only for that industrial park. The residential is very limited in that area so I said put it on. It's on for tomorrow night. I was just wondering I this Board had any concerns or heartburn in regards to putting that in.

Selectman Coutu said whoever brings industry into town, I'm for it. Chairman Maddox thought we were pro-business so I thought again this would be at least we put it out there. Selectman Coutu said it's not looking like a 20 story building I might have some concerns but it's beneath what we already have approved over there. Chairman Maddox said the Fire Department didn't look at it and talked about they'd have to do some certain things to be able to...Selectman Coutu noted that would be my primary concern.

Lastly Chairman Maddox repeated as we said, we're trying to be as proactive and that's where we want our business and it's only for high bay storage. I guess that's the new in thing with distribution centers. Again it will be on tomorrow night. Selectman McGrath asked what exactly is he looking for to put this on the warrant article. Chairman Maddox said on the warrant article to change the zoning for Sagamore Park. Selectman McGrath was okay with that because...Steve Malizia said the voters would actually vote on this. Selectman McGrath said sitting on the Zoning Board I was there when the case was presented for the building that exceeded the height limit. One of the questions that I asked about that was whether or not the Fire Department had looked at it and whether or not if there was an emergency there and they needed to reach the top level if they could, they didn't have any issues with it. Therefore I didn't have any issues.

Selectman Luszey asked isn't a ladder 100 foot. Chairman Maddox noted it's 105. Selectman McGrath said we have a height limitation and the height limitation was based on the ability of the Fire Department to actually reach those levels. Steve Malizia said 38 feet. Selectman Coutu noted it could conceivably be 4 depending. Chairman Maddox thought it was based on what the ladder would reach but now with the technology. So the Board is fine with supporting that. Okay.

Speaking of Planning Board, Chairman Maddox said I often hold up a sign that says "no good deed goes unpunished". We are now in that semi-dilemma with the Benson Park and the commitment supposedly to put utilities in. I heard Speaker Jasper last night and we talked about reducing the price. Part of that reduction is by having town

staff do it. I'm getting wind that again we need to nail down what is expected of town staff. I think that as this comes forward to the Deliberative Session we have some numbers from Mr. Burns as to if he has to spend 8 weeks doing this, what won't get done, and what is the price. You can say there's no cost but there is. I think in fairness so we don't get tripped up again by there's no cost, what is going to be the cost so if the Town Administrator if the Board agrees that we try to pull some numbers together just so we can have them, I can't believe that people won't ask what won't get done or what will be the cost of this when we get to the Deliberative. We're going to have this discussion at the Deliberative Session we have more facts and figures before us.

Selectman McGrath said I have a concern about Mr. Burns and the department being utilized but moreover I'm concerned that Speaker Jasper is already taking to Kevin and trying to encourage him to do the work in that park. I've got to say that makes me really uncomfortable because that's a different role he has now. He's not a Selectman any longer. That's my concern. We all know that Speaker Jasper can be aggressive and...Chairman Maddox said headstrong. Selectman McGrath noted that's saying it mildly. Chairman Maddox said he was passionate. There seems to be competing now. From what I'm hearing there's multiple people going to Kevin with plans. Selectman McGrath said that's got to stop. Chairman Maddox thought we need to pull that back. Again I think that we need to have some input from what they want to do as opposed to what Kevin can do and how the time frame is going to be.

Selectman Luszey had a couple of things. One is Speaker Jasper can talk to anybody he really wants to but when it comes down to the work assignment, it's really us that would govern and provide the guidance there. On the thought that when he was talking about it when we built the Senior Center we used Kevin. We could go down a somewhat slippery slope because we basically said during that planning stage is that the town is paying Kevin whether he does nothing or everything. So we're already absorbing that cost if we utilize that, it's not an additional cost. To your point, we did go through the exercises as if we have Kevin do X, Y, Z what projects would we postpone doing that. So that is a legitimate conversation to have with Highway Department heads.

Selectman McGrath said I wasn't suggesting that he can't talk to Kevin. Anybody certainly can pick up the phone. Any citizen in this town can pick up the phone and call Kevin. What I'm talking about though is that I don't want Kevin to be used, and abused, and coerced into doing work that we haven't authorized and that we don't have a clear handle on. Selectman Luszey noted that's what I'm saying. He can't do that. Jasper cannot authorize Kevin to go do X. Selectman McGrath said I completely understand that. I'm talking about being very aggressive about trying to talk him into agreeing to do something when actually it's putting a strain on him and his department.

Selectman Coutu believed that prior to, and I could be mistaken, but prior to having a discussion with Speaker Jasper relative to their proposal for Benson Park that we had all received a communication from Mr. Burns. I've spoken with him and I thought he was quite emphatic in that he will not have the time to dedicate to all of the digging that needs to be done there. I think that if someone wants to come in here and make a proposal to us relative to what their expectation might be if Kevin were available, at that point we would ask Mr. Burns to come in here and tell us straight up I can or cannot do this. If I can, I'll keep track of the costs so that again we don't get caught with our pants down and say oh it was all done for free when in fact manpower, labor, vehicles, gasoline all cost money. We will have him keep track of it. I think that based on the communication that we received from Mr. Burns he made it I thought abundantly clear that he would not have the time nor the manpower to devote to doing all this digging and bringing in pipes and doing whatever. He just couldn't do it so we'll see.

Chairman Maddox asked Selectman Nichols as the liaison to Highway. Selectman Nichols spoke to Kevin after he sent that e-mail and I loved the e-mail and I spoke to him here. He was very emphatic about how he couldn't do anything right at the moment because he was busy and he had summer things to do and it seemed like that was going to be a big project. Speaker Jasper said that he had talked to Kevin and Kevin had agreed and that he was going to do the borings, and he was going to do this, and he was going to that and do the other thing I'm thinking well as far as I know, no one has said that anyone has talked to anyone. I was told that I must have talked to somebody to change my mind on different things and I said no. The only one I had talked to is Kevin. I hadn't talked to a soul. You guys are men and you stay where you are. I don't go and bug you and ask you silly questions. I just felt as though - Kevin works for the town and it would be up to the town, the Board of Selectmen to say or to the town to say what Kevin can do not for someone else to come in because they had that right before. They don't have that right now or am I wrong?

Chairman Maddox thought you've hit a couple of things and first when Mr. Burns was here for his workshop said that his plate was full. There was no more time to do other things. Now that we're now paving almost \$1 million a year, the prep work, the drainage, all of that he is doing before the paving is actually done is quite time consuming. He said he did not have the time. Now I understand that he did borings at the request of the Benson Park Committee. I'm hearing that multiple people from Benson Park Committee are coming in and talking to the Road Agent. Again I do not want to get back to micromanaging Benson Park but I also don't want to have a department head trying to make everybody happy and not making the jobs that he needs to get done. I think that Mr. Malizia if you'll convey to him that I think we need to hear a plan and whether we want to approve it, the Benson Park Committee, however we want to go. Just people stopping into Mr. Burns and saying can you do X, Y, or Z needs to stop.

Selectman Luszey asked wouldn't we want that plan to be at least initialed by the Town Engineer that it's okay. Chairman Maddox said that's why I'm asking where do we want to go with this.

Steve Malizia said who's plan is it. Chairman Maddox noted that's the problem. As I'm hearing it, there's competing plans now. Mr. Malizia said none of them are Kevin's plan. Chairman Maddox said no. Mr. Malizia just wanted to make sure when you said him are you referring to Kevin? He doesn't have a plan. I want to make sure I'm on the right page.

Selectman Luszey said there needs to be a vetting process and I would think that the Town Engineer would be where that happens so that when he signs off, that would be the plan that we would look at to see how we would resource if we chose to.

If I understand it, Steve Malizia said you had a plan presented to you at this forum here by the committee which had a dollar figure of \$750,000 and what I thought I heard articulated at some point is we're going to work to get this number down. Correct me if I'm wrong but that's what I thought we all heard. I think the plan to get it down is to go to Kevin and say how can you get this down. That's the plan that they've got. I don't know what other plan there is.

Chairman Maddox thought in fairness they're going to Liberty Utilities and to Energy North...Steve Malizia said because we can't do gas and electric. We're not allowed to. Chairman Maddox said right but I'm saying that they're looking at other options. Again I think that town resources has become the savior of the dollars. We went from 375 to 250 and it was said last night I believe that they could get that under 200.

Selectman Coutu noted because he can get Kevin to do this, that, and the other thing. The point is is that they can't dictate what Kevin does. Kevin we know what our expectations are of Kevin are those are those immediate obligations that he has. Now even if he had the time, I still think it behooves him coming to us saying they're proposing the following is it okay to go ahead and do it and not them telling him you're going to do it. We run the town not the Benson Park Committee, or the Town Engineer, or anybody else. This is over and above and it's a considerable amount of work. Kevin has been good to us and we've been good to Kevin in terms of allowing him to run his department. AT the same time, common sense applies here. If he has a water main break and he's in the middle of this project, and he's in the middle of a paving project, and he's got to run and put people on overtime down at the water main break granted it's reimbursable through the utility district but he's tying up 2 or 3 men. God knows how long it takes to clear it up. You know he can't be making - this is a major commitment. You have a contractor go in. They go in and they get it done and they get out. Kevin goes in and he might be able to do it piecemeal and that's not the way to do it. Now we got a million liabilities. We have trenches dug all over the place. We've got to be very, very careful. I said then and I continue to say that was not ready for prime time. It wasn't ready to be put on the ballot. The plan is haphazard at best and the price tag is \$750,000. If the voters say yes to this and they say no to ever going anywhere with it, we've got a bunch of pipes and holes in the ground. They'd be filled obviously and no utilities going anywhere. Are the voters ready to pay a \$775,000 price tag?

Selectman Coutu commented I supported bringing utilities into the park because when it was first presented to me it was we're going to call Eversource - it wasn't Eversource at the time it was PSNH - and we're going to have them run a line in. Okay I don't have a problem with that and now it's electricity, its gas, its water, its sewer. We're going to have bathrooms. We're not going to have bathrooms. What are we going to do somebody said the other night at the Benson Park Committee, we have not plan even for the train station. Now we've got it on a foundation and we have no plan what we're going to do with it. Again we're reactionary. There's no forethought or planning goes into anything. If we're going to do this, let's tell the voters realistically what is the total price tag of this project? You're being asked to put up \$250,000 maybe a little less now out of what was first recommended to be - what was this part of the project initial cost? Steve Malizia said \$375,000 or \$380,000 somewhere in that ballpark. Selectman Coutu noted that still leaves another \$400,000 to finish it based on their plans. If you remember when they first came to us they were going to go out and have this whole thing engineered. It was all engineered. There was a price tag attached to it and now they've changed the price tag because we can change everything that can be done. It's confusing to me at best.

Selectman McGrath indicated it's also deceiving because we're presented with a cost to bring those items into the park. Then if we have the town staff/employees working on it, that's hidden costs. So it can either be higher or lower but it's hidden because we can't really determine what that is until they do the work and then calculate what the hours were, the number of employees, the material that they used, the vehicles that they used, everything that goes into that. This is becoming I think a project - and I understand people love the park. They have a great sense of sentimentality towards it. It's a lovely park but there's got to be a limit and there also has to be an understanding that the people in this town that are paying the taxes that employ everyone that we need to employ and pay for all of the paving and everything else that needs to be done to run the Town of Hudson, they're hurting. We've had an economy that's been in the toilet for I don't know how many years - at least 7 maybe longer. People can't get employed. There's an employment decline where they don't bother going on interviews anymore because they can't get jobs. To even present the idea of spending over \$700,000 to bring in sewer, water, electric, and gas with hooking up to nothing, just bringing it into the park to me it makes absolutely no sense at all and not only that but I really think that it's insulting to the people of this town that are hurting and trying to pay their taxes. I go to the grocery store I'm one

person. I can't get over what I spend in one small shopping trip, and I think about people that have children and trying to feed their families, and what they must have to spend and having to meet their financial obligations, and then having the town think about spending over three-quarters of a million dollars to bring in those facilities into a park, it just doesn't make sense to me. I really do think it's insulting.

As far as going and talking to Kevin, Selectman McGrath noted if that's going to happen, that should happen maybe in Steve's office or in this board room here where everybody gets to hear the conversation about what they're proposing, what they want done, what they want Kevin and his staff to do, and how that's going to affect all of the other duties that he and his people have to perform for the town and what it's ultimately going to cost. These private conversations are just unseemly.

Chairman Maddox didn't think I'm going to go to unseemly. I think it's just a function of I don't want to have Mr. Burns put in the position he was with the school plowing. It became a burden to him and to his department. So again I'm looking for this Board to say to Mr. Burns to hold off on agreeing to anything until we have heard the plan. Is that reasonable?

Selectman Luszey note with just one exception to that. I think the plan needs to be initialed by the Town Engineer so that we have some level of confidence that what's being proposed is viable because what we saw the other day right off the bat we saw other routes that could be taken to lessen the...Chairman Maddox thought that's what I understand is other people have now come in. They did some borings but somebody else came in with another plan. So again I don't know how Kevin can agree to do something when he doesn't know what something is. Again what was it 11 cents this is on the ballot. Again I think that and I understand getting it down but again if we're getting it down by using in house forces, that's not getting it down. Again maybe they're going to have the utilities pick up some of that money. Again I don't know what is being done in the background but I'm more worried about the Road Agent and the confusing messages that are getting to him.

Selectman Coutu thought we should institute a policy that - I mean I don't want to stymie Mr. Burns' ability to talk to people but when it comes to that particular project and unless it meets with our approval, he's not going to commit to anything. So it gets him off the hook. Maybe they'll stop bothering him. I can't commit to anything. It has to go to the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Maddox asked is that where they're headed?

Selectman McGrath said well not just commit to it but also to even agree with the concept of it. Selectman Coutu said there's no plan. There's no set plan agreed by anybody.

Selectman Luszey asked are you talking about anything that's going on within Benson's now or just this particular utility plan. Selectman Coutu noted the utility plan because there are other things like Dick Empey for example works closely with him in terms of trails because he dedicates so much time in the spring for trails and Dick Empey works with him. They seem to have a fairly cordial relationship and I wouldn't want to hamper that. That kind of work he has been able to schedule. This is a major undertaking and a major project we're talking about and we still don't know where we're going. They're talking about changing the routes and coming in different ways now. It's not done. It was never ready for primetime. If there's 2 or 3 competing plans if that's true I don't know that but if there are 2 or 3 competing plans, everybody has different ideas all of a sudden they need to get their act together. If the question is they keep saying to us we have an obligation. We promised them that we were going to give the Friends of Benson's utilities, I don't understand why we never called Eversource and say put some utilities in that building. Just go down and fix the box that's in the basement of the office building because that's limited power. Increase that to 200 or 400 amps, check the wire that they've got running wherever it's running. I don't know how it's running or where it's running. We should have our electrical inspector - I've said this at least 4 or 5 times already. Look at that line and make sure it's safe and then find a way to get Eversource to get power to the barn, and how much is that going to cost the town to do that? Probably nothing. Get the Friends of Benson some electricity in their building. If there's no cost, Eversource says no there's no cost we'll bring it into the building, then do it. They're going to have a separate meter. They agreed to pay the electric bill. I don't have a problem with that. I don't have a problem with them getting some power.

Chairman Maddox asked they have power now right? Selectman Coutu said yes they're running off an extension that's off the office building. I don't know how it's getting to the building. It certainly isn't above ground. It must be underground. I don't know that it's wired properly. Somebody told me that we ought to have that box checked. I want to make sure the buildings are safe and that the people who occupy the building, especially the red barn, are safe. I think our Electrical Inspector should go out there and inspect that box and that wire that's running underground to make sure it's safe and what is it coming into? Just coming into the building and there's a plug there and then they're running an extension cord. I don't know because there's refrigerators in there. There's a freezer. There's lights. This is all running off that old box in the office building. I just want to make sure the buildings are safe. Is that too much to ask? I think it's in our purview to insist that we make sure that things are wired properly. They may very well be and if they are then good. I want to make sure they're not running too much amperage out of that red barn that that box can

hold. I don't think they're running off of 4 or 5 fuses down there. I don't know if it's fuses or circuit breakers but probably are just the old fuses and I don't know where they get them. Somebody might have an old box, pennies.

Selectman McGrath said if we expect the residence in this town to adhere to code, then the town ought to make sure that we adhere to code.

Selectman Coutu noted I've suggested this be done in the past and I don't think there was ever a vote taken or a consensus to do it. No one asked the Town Administrator to do it so you can't fault him. I just think it needs to be done. I'm asking again that the Electrical Inspector inspect to make sure the wiring is proper.

Selectman McGrath indicated I'd be happy to make a motion to that respect.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to have the Electrical Inspector take a look at the elephant barn and the office building and report back to make sure they're safe.

Selectman Coutu said just to make sure they're safe. If they're safe, fine and if they're not what's his recommendation to fix it and let's get it fixed.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Steve Malizia asked what does that have to do with the plan though? Chairman Maddox thought the plan is really we need to say to Mr. Burns just inform everybody that they need to get a plan approved by the Benson Park Committee.

Selectman Luszey said the unintended consequences let's say that it's not safe. What's the expectation that we - do we give them 30 days to bring it up.

Selectman Coutu said I would hope that the Town Administrator...Steve Malizia said you'd have to see why it's unsafe and then see what the cost is to fix it. See what's the Board purview because there's a bunch of steps.

Selectman Luszey stated if it's found to be unsafe, do we lock it out? Now you're allowing someone access to an unsafe building which I think would cause us a liability at that time. The point in time we know it's unsafe...Steve Malizia assumed they could shut it off. So they can work in the dark.

Selectman Coutu said now is the time to do it. I'd rather do it in the winter time when it's less occupied than in the summer. I think they would agree with me. I would hope they would agree with me that if it's not safe we should shut it down until there's corrective action taken. I would suggest that we get a hold of Eversource or whatever the supplier is and see if there is a cost to bring power directly to the red barn. Steve Malizia said it depends. Sometimes there is sometimes there isn't. Selectman Coutu noted they can't put polls in the historical district. Is that section in the historical district? The barn isn't.

Chairman Maddox said let's find out if they bring power there but I think they're going to say if they were to - if you had a barn on your property back 1,200 feet which is probably where they are from the roadway, they're going to have to put X number of polls in and I believe you have to pay for those polls. Again let's...

Selectman Luszey commented it would be easier getting power to the gorilla cage and the A-frame right now. Selectman Coutu noted its all underground. Selectman Luszey said you can bring it off the cable.

Chairman Maddox said let's find out what the issues are. It may be fine and let's go from there. Let's find out what the issues are. They do have a plan that they're trying to bring them in underground so let's see what that comes to. At the very least, let's find out the answer to your question.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION - None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman Coutu, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Richard J. Maddox, Chairman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Pat Nichols, Selectman

Marilyn McGrath, Selectman

Ted Luszey, Selectman