

**HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Minutes of the May 1, 2007 Workshop**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Chairman Shawn Jasper at 7:00 in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Hudson Town Hall.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Selectman Ben Nadeau.

3. **ATTENDANCE**

**Selectmen:** Shawn Jasper, Ben Nadeau, Ken Massey, Rick Maddox and Doug Robinson.

**Staff/Others:** Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant; about 15 people in the audience-  
- Recreation Committee members and Hudson Senior Council on Aging; Howard Dilworth, Jr.

4. **CONSENT ITEMS**

*Motion by Selectman Massey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to approve the following assessing items carried 5-0.*

**Assessing Items**

- a. Disabled Exemptions (39 B St, 8 River Rd, 17 Oliver Dr) and Elderly Exemptions (19 Cedar St, 3 Campbell Ave, 3 Village Ln, 60 Greeley St, 8 Hopkins Dr, 40 Riverside Ave, 4 Power St, 23B Holly Ln, 13 George St, 8 Lorraine St), w/recommendation to re-grant.
- b. Veteran Tax Credits (23 George St, 155 Derry Rd, 44 Greeley St); Disabled Exemptions (26 Eayrs Pond Rd, 52A Lund Dr, 80 Bush Hill Rd, 155 Derry Rd); and Elderly Exemptions (13 Oak Ave, 15 Glen Dr, 44 Greeley St, 32 Webster St, 2 Clement Rd, 26 Cedar St, 2B Intervale Ct, 12 Hemlock St, 11 Greeley St, 53 River Rd, 4 Campbell Ave), w/recommendation to grant.

5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. **Hudson Senior Council on Aging and the Recreation Department**

Chairman Jasper recognized Andy Renzullo, representing the Hudson Senior Council on Aging and Mick Regan for the Recreation Dept. Mr. Renzullo asked the Seniors with him to identify themselves—Joyce Goodwin, Alida Weergang, Irene Tremblay, Helen Gonzales, Lucille Boucher, Dot Jacobs, Rhona Charbonneau, Laura Bedard and Ferdinand Morin. Mick followed suit with the Recreation Department--Rupert Cote, Tim Boland and Sue LaRoche. Former OPAC members, Andrea Perreault and Len Lathrop were also present.

Chairman Jasper said the parameters for tonight's discussion was fairly loose. He wanted to have a discussion with both groups on how they can co-exist and use the existing facilities until they move on to the next phase. They have \$15,000 to do the engineering feasibility study and they have to figure out how to move forward with that. In the meantime, there are some conflicting interests with use of the building and how things are going to work for the summer. He didn't have a set agenda or any opening items, so he opened it up to the floor for anyone who wanted to ask questions, make comments, or talk about the future of any of the groups.

Mr. Renzullo said when it comes to the discussion on the everyday use of the building, it's best to hear from those who run the use of the building for the Hudson Seniors. He said he could speak to the future use, but invited Lucille Boucher to speak to what the Seniors' everyday needs were. Mrs. Boucher said they meet Wednesdays and Thursdays. They have aerobics, line dancing and lunch. They also have a foot clinic, an eye clinic, a flu clinic in the fall and many other things going on. They have a scholarship dance coming up, which she's already talked to Dave about to use the hall on a Saturday night. They try to do as much as they can with the community. They also use the hall for people to come in when they go on trips, and then close it back up when they leave.

Selectman Robinson asked what the management structure of the organization was, if they were chartered, if they were a 501C3 organization and who the officers were. Mrs. Boucher said they are chartered with the state and there is a copy of their charter in the Town Clerk's Office. They've been a 501C since 1992, but they have changed their name about three times. They have a chairman and co-chairman of the board, plus a 15-member Board of Directors, plus a President, which she is, Rhona is Vice-President and Irene is Secretary.

Chairman Jasper said, not having been a party to any of the ongoing discussions, just hearing things out on the street, so to speak. One of the things they want to work out now is to make the upcoming summer work for both groups, both of which have needs. They need to come to some resolution of what works. Is there a combination of using the building at Oakwood? He didn't know a lot about the Rec Department's summer program, but he has heard they are out at Robinson Pond one day a week. He didn't know how much time they spent across the street from Oakwood. Is there any way they can get things to mesh together so they can exist in harmony for the next few years?

Selectman Nadeau said the Rec Committee offered the Seniors the use of Oakwood on Wednesdays and Thursdays and the Community Center on Fridays. Fridays is the day the Rec goes to Robinson Pond. If it is a

rainy day, a lot of the parents don't bring their kids on Fridays because they either go away for the weekends or they don't want to go swimming. Fridays is the lightest day, so they offered that to the Seniors and he's already talked to Lucille a couple of times about it, but he hasn't heard anything back. Mrs. Boucher said the bad thing about that is they have scheduled food on Thursdays and they are having trouble getting help. This person is designated for Thursdays and they probably have no one that will come and serve on Fridays. They also have scheduled programs on Thursdays. She talked to Dave to see if they could work something out. On Wednesdays, they (Recreation) usually go on trips, but there are some children still at the hall. If the Seniors could still have the hall, Dave could take the remaining children up to the Rec Department (Oakwood facility) and Dave Alukonis said he (Dave Yates) could use the school, if it rained. If Dave switched the Robinson Pond day from Friday to Thursday, the Seniors wouldn't have a problem anywhere.

Chairman Jasper said the problem would be that Friday is a light day, and that's why they opt to go to the pond, so it really wouldn't be feasible to switch that end of the program. He asked what goes on on Thursday that they couldn't change. Mrs. Boucher said Bingo all afternoon—and not to take that away from them.

Chairman Jasper said for the past couple of years, the Seniors have used an alternative building because the Rec Department has used the Community Center. He asked if they've explored the options for continuing that arrangement again this year. Mrs. Boucher said he'd have to talk to the VFW because they've also taken on some Scouts this year and she didn't have any idea what their schedule was.

Selectman Maddox asked how the kids get to Robinson Pond on Fridays. Selectman Nadeau said the parents drop them off there. Selectman Maddox asked Rick for a rundown of what goes on at the Community Center during the summer program. Mr. Regan said it's basically four days a week at the Community Center. Mondays, they play games. Tuesdays, they travel to Roller Kingdom. Wednesdays, it's a cookout; Thursdays, it's field trips. However, not everyone participates in everything, so they have a good bunch of kids still at the center. Sometimes on Thursdays, they go to state parks and some parents don't want their kids to go to state parks because of supervision issues, etc. Four days out of the week, there are a lot of kids that are still at the Community Center, even though there are field trips scheduled. Cookouts are on Wednesdays. On Fridays, they go to Robinson Pond, weather permitting. Typically, that is a light day. If the weather is inclement, the numbers are down and perhaps Oakwood would suffice. During an average day, they have at least 250 kids. Last year, 560 kids enrolled in the program, which is a big program for the town. It gets kids off the streets and they don't have to go every day. Some people even use it for day-care. Kids are dropped off and they can stay an hour, two hours or all day. College students are hired as supervisors, most of whom went through the program, themselves, so they know the procedures. When they switched to the Community Center, they tried to anticipate all of the problems. The first year, the parking lots on both sides of the building were roped off, but the sun was too hot in the afternoons, so last year, that side was used for parking and they kept everyone on the far side of the building toward Adelaide. In the shaded area in the back, they have sandboxes. During some of the very hot days, the air conditioning was fantastic. Kids could go out and run around or stay inside and play table games, such as air hockey, ping-pong, etc. His kids attend every day and they love it because they are not just sitting around the house, being bored. There is a place for them to go and something for them to do.

Selectman Massey said they can't lose sight of the fact that in 1994, the town of Hudson, with its then-Board of Selectmen, voted to request that the Trustees of the Trust Funds provide \$80,000 plus interest, to help offset the cost of purchasing the Lions Club building. As part of that motion, the Board of Selectmen clearly indicated that one of the stipulations for the Trustees would be willing to release the monies is that if somebody came into town and said, "show me your senior center," they'd be able to look over there and say, "there is the senior center." Right now, what they are looking at is each year, they are asking the group who has a vested interest, a vested right, to use that facility, to vacate. This isn't a question of whether the Seniors or the Rec Center should be accommodated; it's a question that the building was purchased with an explicit action on the part of the Board of Selectmen that designated that building as being partly a senior center. So, from his perspective, it's the Rec Center that should be making the accommodations, not the Seniors because for those nine weeks, to say there's no senior center means that the terms and conditions that were set in 1994 are not being met.

Chairman Jasper said the stipulation was that the Seniors would have the use of the building two days a week, Monday through Friday. That was taken away several years ago. He didn't think then, and he doesn't now, that that's right. There are problems with Oakwood, but they are taking the next steps to making that facility friendlier for the Seniors, but they have to deal with the problem at hand. Fridays seems to be a day that makes sense for the Seniors to use the hall, but it doesn't seem that they can fit anything in. There was never a specific guarantee of certain days. There has got to be some accommodation to make both things work because both programs are important. The problem is Oakwood was a real problem in terms of sheer numbers for the kids. They can use the gym at HO Smith School, but it's not air conditioned and not an ideal situation. How do they come to some amicable solution?

Selectman Maddox said he was saddened. There is a lot of energy in the room and a lot of desire to do something. Unfortunately, it seems like they are trying to do it to each other, rather than push forward for a solution. They know there is a problem. They have way too many children trying to be crammed into the Oakwood building. They have commitments that another Board made for tax dollars that some believe that's what it should be. They need to take all of the energy and try to focus on a way that will make it work. Everybody is going to leave tonight, all somewhat unhappy, but maybe that's not a bad thing. If they can get

something that works for the 250 plus kids, the Seniors, trying to make this something that will be a stepping stone to moving forward. They all want to do something else. He didn't want to see that lost by the fact that they are going to fracture some eggs tonight. He was hoping both sides would see there's a way to move this, to try this. Is there another location that would be agreeable to taking the Seniors for those nine weeks. As much as that's an inconvenience, it's probably easier than trying to find a place that will take 250-300 kids for nine weeks. Is there a plan everybody can sit down and work out? Everybody is reasonable, but they are all trying to drive in a different direction than they should be.

Mrs. Goodwin said they were talking about this the other night, trying not to look at kids or Seniors because they are pitting the kids against the Seniors and the Seniors against the kids, and that's not fair, if you look at it from the building and the groups' perspectives. You have Seniors—a group of people who meet twice a week, the same two days all year long. They have programs that run on those two days. They have people they have hired to come in on those two days. Those people are scheduled only for those days. They can't change them. Their programs cannot be changed, never mind the fact that once you move them out of that building, they have materials that have to be carted in and out of another building daily. They don't have storage area. They have nothing. You got another group that's an extremely flexible group of people that meet on a part-time basis—nine weeks during the year. They're asking a group that meets 52 weeks out of the year to change their entire program for a group that meets nine weeks. That's not fair. Kids thrive on creativity and change and spontaneity and all of those things. That program can be molded to what they have available to them. The Seniors—the group that meets 52 weeks out of the year—cannot because they have scheduled programs. It's just not fair to ask that group to move because another group, that can be changed, won't.

Selectman Robinson asked for clarification that Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays were not a problem. Mrs. Goodwin said that was correct. Selectman Robinson asked if there was a blending of the programs at the Rec Center so their away activities were on Thursday and Robinson Pond activities are on Friday and the rest of their activities on Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Regan said Thursdays were field trip days. Some days, they go to Boston, but a lot of people don't want their kids going there, so there were still a lot of kids in the Community Center. Dave would be able to provide the numbers. Selectman Robinson asked if the number of kids made it impossible to share the building on Thursdays. Mr. Regan said that was true, and there were a lot of gaming tables set up for the kids to use and there are different zones. It is a very well run program—and the flexibility thing just doesn't work. The programs have already been started, so things are already in motion. They just can't move all of the recreation equipment daily. Logistically, it is impossible. Selectman Robinson said he knows what Mr. Regan was talking about, but the viewers might not know how much stuff is actually there. Mr. Regan said the summer program is a town run program. People pay so their kids can attend and the money goes into the general fund. People paying for the programs are paying for their kids to be protected during the day. With the Community Center, they instituted a check-in/check-out policy, which is huge, in today's society. In the old days, they could just come and go, but today people really want to know where their kids are. With the added space, there is added security. The place is fenced; there is a barrier and they have a lot of eyes. Everything is working really well and he's sure that's the feedback they'd get from all of the parents whose kids are in the program, especially compared to what they had before. It is night and day.

Lucille Boucher said she has told Dave before that he can leave the pool tables and couches; they could probably use the pool tables. They'd have to take down the big screen, though. They've been having meetings right along with basketball hoops up, anyway. Chairman Jasper said the problem with that is those are things that are part of the Rec program, so if they go to Oakwood, now they don't have the things they need to run their program. That's where the problem comes in.

Selectman Maddox said Mick confused him and asked how many kids were in the program. Once he said 250 and once he said 600. Mr. Regan said last year, 565 signed up, but not everyone goes every day. On any given day, they average 250 plus, except on Fridays, and it might drop to 200. Dave (Yates) has the numbers; he didn't because he's not there every day. If it's a nice day, there will be more at Robinson Pond. If it's overcast, the numbers might lessen. Selectman Maddox asked what the number were for the Seniors on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Ms. Boucher said for aerobics and line dancing, the most they'd have are 45-50. Then they have a group that play cards and then they have dinner. On Thursdays, they have a membership meeting or Bingo. For Bingo, they probably have around 90. If it's a meeting, they might have 60-70 for dinner.

Selectman Robinson said in looking at the OPAC report, a group that the Selectmen put together to make a roadmap for the town, many of the people present tonight were on that committee. In the findings section on Page 13, it says, "Summer at the Community Center, short term plan. The council has discussed with Lucille, in stating this was not in the scope of OPAC the short term logistics of summer at the Community Center, the nine week...

(Start Tape 1-B)

period of recreation department and senior overlap. As the Recreation Department transitions their operations to the Community Center, our senior citizens should relocate their programs to the facility at Oakwood Street. This may mean that in order for the Seniors to continue their current programming, they may need to expand their meeting times to five days per week. Suggested usage might be line dancing and aerobics to be held on Monday and Tuesday, with meals and general gatherings held on Wednesdays, Thursdays and possibly Fridays. The Oakwood facility is air conditioned and, with minor modifications, should be capable of meeting food-handling requirements for the meals that are currently served. With school being out of session, there is ample amount of parking at the school, etc. The hope is that adequate space can be utilized in the building for storage

of necessary items. On days when there is a field trip, an agreement could be reached with the schools to park upwards of 60 cars. The transition between the Community Center and the Oakwood facility would need to begin in the summer of 2007." He asked where the Seniors were with the OPAC report.

Mrs. Boucher said she didn't agree with some of the things in the OPAC report. Selectman Robinson said the report was what was submitted by the committee of 13 people and although she may not have agreed with it, that was the recommendation for direction that OPAC gave to the town for the Recreation Department and for the Seniors. He agreed that it was a bitter pill to swallow, but that's what the commission's findings were. Mr. Renzullo said he was not part of OPAC, but there was division, especially on that issue—and he didn't think that any of the people who made use of the area, from the Seniors' standpoint, was in agreement with that. Selectman Robinson said that wasn't noted in the report. Mr. Renzullo said the report was written by several people, but not necessarily... Selectman Robinson said the report was presented to the Board by OPAC, made up of a cross-pollination of people from the Budget Committee, Recreation Committee, citizens, etc. He just reading what was in the report.

Mr. Renzullo asked, when the change came and the Seniors were evicted from the Center, if there has been an increase in the usage of the Rec Center by the Recreation Department since the original action occurred? Have they filled the void? Have they just added more things to take on, outside of the original occurrence? Chairman Jasper believed there have been more activities because a new floor has been put down, such as basketball. Mr. Regan said the Recreation Department put \$88,000 worth of upgrades into the building—new floor, painting. That gave them the ability to add basketball time. Prior, they were limited to time that the schools were able to donate. They opened the center up on Saturday mornings and got more younger kids in. They have dances now, Comedy Nights. The building needed an upgrade, and Recreation Department funds were used for that—and they got a lot of things out of that investment, as well as the town, who got a nice piece of property with no added burden on the taxpayer. The building needed upgrading and they took care of that. Chairman Jasper asked if the Rec Department was using the Center more hours. Mr. Regan said yes. The only other groups affected were vendors who used the Center on the weekends. They (Recreation Department) are more than willing to accommodate any town-run, town-organized thing to fill that, if it is available, and it only takes a simple phone call to Dave. Like anything else, they can make accommodations for size.

Selectman Massey thought Mr. Renzullo asked if, during the nine weeks, there has been a difference in attendance, since the change, not any of the activities that occur outside that nine weeks. Mr. Renzullo said his question was actually for both; for everything. Selectman Massey said OPAC was not charged with anything relative to anything other than coming up with a plan for the Seniors. The fact that there's something included for recreation is interesting, but that's not the charge that was given to that committee. It was to come back and give a set of recommendations to the Board as to the future of the Senior programs in town. Chairman Jasper asked if the number of children signing up for the summer program has increased. Mr. Regan said he didn't have those numbers; Dave did. Chairman Jasper wondered why he didn't have those basic numbers, but that wasn't his (Mr. Regan's) problem.

Chairman Jasper said they were in a bit of a Mexican standoff, but the Board of Selectmen created a situation a couple of years ago that caused this problem. While he agrees with Selectman Massey on the situation, and always has, he looks at the situation and asks why they are supposed to do with 250-300 kids on a daily basis. On the other hand, they are looking at a maximum of 100 Seniors. Until they have a long-term solution, they need to find a place to make them comfortable and to make it work, and if it means they need to assist them in getting their supplies and setting them up, that's what they need to do because they literally can't displace the 250 kids. Fridays is an easy fix, but that doesn't work for the Seniors, so where do they go? What do they do?

Selectman Massey said it's an interesting juxtaposition. They were talking about what do they do that they can't displace the Rec program, but in fact, the Rec Center displaced the Seniors and, a point in fact, when they did displace the Seniors, the Seniors were never consulted ahead of time as to how it would happen. Chairman Jasper said he absolutely agreed. Selectman Massey said what they were really saying tonight was, if they move the Seniors, they are asking them to change, but they are not asking the Rec Center to change. It seemed like strange logic to him.

Selectman Maddox said he was hoping they could work something out with the two groups. Is there another building in town they could work out something with? Is there some way to let them have Oakwood for Wednesdays and Thursdays, and Fridays, they could have it for line dancing. (A lot of background talking.) Chairman Jasper gave the order, saying people should be recognized to speak one at a time because the meeting was televised and everyone needed an opportunity to see and hear what was going on. Speakers should be recognized through the Chair.

Selectman Maddox said he was just asking what could be done, otherwise the Board was going to be put in the position of making the decision; that was fine because that's why they are getting paid the big bucks, but he was hoping that they could harness some of the energy that was in the room and work out a compromise between the Rec and Seniors. He understands people are being paid to teach. Is there a way to find some other people? He wanted to find some other answer other than do something none of them really want to do. He asked the Seniors to tell them about line dancing. Ms. Goodwin said there is a woman contracted to come in on that particular day for those particular hours. They can't change the schedule because she has other people on other days. Selectman Maddox asked if someone else could teach line dancing on Fridays. Mrs. Boucher said no, they are certified teachers and they have special days they go special places and the Seniors are filled in for that slot.

Selectman Maddox said if that person is tied up for that day, is there someone else that could fill in on Fridays for those nine weeks? Mrs. Boucher said no, because they are used to her. It's like having a teacher in school. Selectman Nadeau asked if Mrs. Boucher asked St. Joe's. Mrs. Boucher said no, she hasn't talked to them, but they had trouble getting him to come on Thursdays, never mind Friday. Chairman Jasper said no one really knew what the question was. Selectman Nadeau said it was to find out if Friday would work for them. Mrs. Boucher said she hasn't asked the main office because they are having trouble replacing people now, even *Meals on Wheels*. They are always advertising for help. Selectman Nadeau asked if it was possible to ask the American Legion to use their dance floor. Mrs. Boucher asked if it was handicapped accessible. Selectman Nadeau said yes. He asked if they could use that facility for line dancing, and then use Oakwood for the rest of the time. Mrs. Boucher said she'd have to put that out to the people. Selectman Nadeau asked if that might be an option. Mrs. Boucher said anything was an option.

Mr. Renzullo asked the Chairman if he saw the drift of the whole conversation. It's what can the Seniors do to change, but there is no conversation whatsoever as to what can the Rec Center do to change. He noticed it. Chairman Jasper said that was absolutely right, but it was a logistics problem with an average of 250 children to deal with. That is the reality. If the Board wants to do something else, if the Board wants to say the kids are out on the street, that's the Board's prerogative. He didn't like what happened and didn't think too many of them liked what happened several years ago, but it's the reality they are left with. Do they go back to a situation that was untenable at Oakwood? That was a problem with the neighbors, they couldn't fit all of the kids in that building and it was a bad situation. He didn't think it was an option to go back to that very bad situation, but what do they do beyond that? Mr. Renzullo wasn't hearing anything because he didn't think anyone has a clue as to what they can do with 250-300 kids on a daily basis, but they are able to visualize places they can put 50-100 people. If the numbers were somewhat equal, they'd all be saying the same thing; they'd send the Rec Department someplace else. But the problem is, they have the pool tables and foosball tables and they can't just put things like that in a bag and cart them from one place to another on a daily basis. That's part of the reality of this very bad situation that he is not happy about.

Selectman Massey asked the Chairman to remind people in the audience that if they are going to converse with each other, to please leave the room because it was very disruptive trying to listen to the speakers who are recognized. Chairman Jasper complied.

Selectman Robinson asked how many people take the aerobics class on Wednesday. Mrs. Boucher said it varies, but estimated an average of 15 for an hour in the morning, from 9:00 – 10:00. He asked how many come in to walk in the morning. Mrs. Boucher said no one, unless they walk outside in the summer. He asked how many do line dancing. Mrs. Boucher said 45-50, from 10:30 – 11:30. He asked how many come in to play cards. Mrs. Boucher said after line dancing, some people stay for lunch at noon. Cards are from 1:00 – 4:30, and there are about 15 who stay for that. Selectman Robinson asked about Thursdays, and if walking was zero on that day, too. Mrs. Boucher said they can come in and walk, if they want to. For lunch, it depends on whether or not there is going to be a meeting or if they play Bingo, so it is anywhere from 50-60. Bingo is the first and third Thursdays and that's about 90 people and probably 75-80 cars. Selectman Robinson said on Thursdays, maybe they have a problem with the person supplying lunch, not being able to do it someplace else. Mrs. Boucher said even now, on a Thursday, the other girl used to come in at 9:30. Now they've got the guy doing something else and he doesn't get in before 10:00-10:30. As soon as he is through, he goes somewhere else. They got him doing double shift. Selectman Robinson asked about line dancing, if that was a contractual agreement where a person comes in every day at 10:30, and how much she or he is paid. Mrs. Boucher said whatever is taken in. It costs \$1 a class and that goes to the teacher. If there are only 10 people, that's all she gets paid. Selectman Robinson asked if somebody else could come in to teach those classes, such as Jazzercise, or if any research has been done to see if they could come in on a different day. Mrs. Boucher said no, because the two days they are there, they don't have enough time. If they had the hall four or five days, they would work in other programs. Some people would like aerobics a couple days a week.

Chairman Jasper asked what the seating capacity was at the Oakwood building. Selectman Massey believed it was somewhere between 50 and 70, when tables are set up, when he spoke with Chief Murray two years ago. Mr. Regan said 125, seated in chairs. Selectman Massey said it drops back substantially when tables are brought in. Also, they would have to upgrade the stove and probably the bathrooms because they aren't handicapped accessible. Mr. Regan said yes, they are because they had a flood, so they were rebuilt and they had to bring it up to code. Selectman Massey said there would be some costs incurred in making that building acceptable to do the programs. Chairman Jasper said the only thing was that it did not have the capacity to do the Bingo. Everything else would be able to be done there. Parking might be an issue, but if people are doing line dancing, they can certainly walk across the street. The only real issue is Bingo. This is not a good situation and he is not happy with it. He wished there was an easy solution, but unless somebody has an idea of what to do with 250 kids, it appears that until they get a new building or the addition, this was the only way to address the problem.

Selectman Maddox said they were asking the Seniors because they are the ones they've been trying to work around. If there is a way to make Fridays a day they could use the building, the Selectmen would tell the Rec Department they are out of there on Fridays. Conversely, they could make Mondays work because people take long holidays. The problem is that it is Wednesdays and Thursdays. They're not just sitting there on how to make the Seniors... they are trying to find a way to accommodate them, and they will certainly deal with the Rec, also. It's not a one-way street.

Chairman Jasper they really need to look at Oakwood to see if, for the nine weeks, the kitchen needs an upgrade. It sounds like there is enough seating to accommodate the people for lunch. Obviously, it's not as easy because in the Community Center, you can have the tables set up. The problem with Oakwood is if there's something going on just before lunch, you've got to set up the tables. That is probably an issue, as well. He'd like to say they would work with another school, but the only air conditioned one is Hills Garrison, and the school district probably uses that on a fairly regular basis, and that is quite a ways away. The other schools are undoubtedly sweltering in the summer.

Selectman Maddox said the Rec Director, about a year and a half ago, said that St. Joe's had come in and looked at the kitchen facility at Oakwood, and they would work. Some minor modifications could be made, but they could have some of the summer counselors come up and move tables around. He thought it would be possible to make that happen to facilitate things. He didn't think they needed to vote tonight, that more research was needed to find out what the head counts are and if there are any other options. Is there another line dancing teacher in NH that might be able to do this? They need some research rather than, as Selectman Massey often says, "Act in haste; repent in leisure." As much as this is something that needs to be resolved, it's probably in their best interest not to do so this evening.

Selectman Nadeau said they also have Reggie, Wayne and others that could help with setting up and taking down the tables. Mr. Regan didn't think that would be an issue. He'd like to see the kids interact with the Seniors. This isn't a case of oil and water; they can co-exist. Both programs should be able to be expanded. For the most part, Oakwood isn't used by Rec during the summer. For three years, it has always been 'us against them.' Unfortunately, the Rec program outgrew the Oakwood facility. As a department of the town, it is the job of the Recreation Department to go out and find alternatives. Three or four years ago, they submitted a warrant article to expand Oakwood, \$300,000 to add another section, but that was defeated. What are the alternatives? Dave is a town employee and his job, and the committee's job, is to expand the programs, make them fun and make them safe. Three years ago, they were bursting at the seams, and it is still true today. There is a lot of bad blood, but it shouldn't be that way.

Chairman Jasper asked what the hours of Bingo were. Mrs. Boucher said on Wednesdays, they are there from 8:30 – 4:30. Bingo is on Thursdays from 1:00 – 4:00. Chairman Jasper believed Thursday was field trip day. He asked what time that program ended. Mr. Regan said pickup was 4:00 p.m. Chairman Jasper said he had considered doing something together on that day, but Bingo is noisy and the kids are noisy, so it didn't seem feasible. He asked what the average attendance was for Bingo in the summer. Mrs. Boucher said again, it varies because people go south in the winter, so it's always about the same—and it's not dark at 4:00 in the summer. Chairman Jasper said the most problematic issue was the Bingo program and where to seat 100 people.

Selectman Robinson said this was very, very painful for everybody. They are like two oak trees and one of them is going to break in the wind pretty soon, versus being a pine tree. On the line dancing, he volunteered to do some research to see if someone else was available a different day of the week, which would allow some flexibility with the Recreation Department. He will look at the contract they already have and maybe get it cheaper. He'd be glad to help them out, if they'd like. Chairman Jasper said while he appreciates that, he understands where the Seniors are coming from. If they've contracted with someone, then tell that person they can't come for nine weeks, they won't have that person for the rest of the year, either. They've got to keep their income up. The line dancing can take place at Oakwood. Mrs. Boucher said teachers have their following and if the people don't like the teacher, they won't attend. Chairman Jasper believed line dancing would work at Oakwood, but Mrs. Boucher said she hasn't really concentrated on the inside, adding that line dancing and people playing cards at tables would not work. Chairman Jasper said if the Seniors use the building five days a week, they could play cards at a different time than they do line dancing.

(Start Tape 2-A)

Selectman Nadeau asked if it was possible to move Bingo to Fridays for nine weeks at the Community Center. Mrs. Boucher didn't know, saying she would have to ask them because some of them may be facing the same problem as the children. Mrs. Weergang interjected that St. Joe's wasn't as flexible as Meals on Wheels, unfortunately.

Selectman Robinson said in response to whether or not line dancing would work at Oakwood, line dancing is from 10:30 to 11:30 with approximately 50 people, then they break for lunch, and then there is 15 people in the afternoon who play cards, etc., from 1:00 – 4:30, so he thought line dancing at Oakwood would work. Chairman Jasper said they could send some people up from the Rec Department to move tables around.

Selectman Maddox said in the past couple of years, they've given a grant to people who would help them out and take the Seniors to another location, so they have monies available they could utilize to pay the line dancing teacher \$40 a week for nine weeks, so she is not hurt and she doesn't even have to come. There are a number of things they could possibly do. Mrs. Boucher didn't want to pay someone to not come. Selectman Maddox said they need some time to kind of kick this around.

Chairman Jasper said line dancing was the least of their problems—and he understood that the Seniors want to stay with their teacher. It's not fair to say they're going to try to find somebody else. That's beyond where he wants to go. The question is finding an air conditioned facility to accommodate them on their conditions and not do what they had to do the past couple of years out at the VFW on Bockes Road. That's probably not the most convenient situation, but if that's what it takes for Bingo, then that's what it takes. He suggested trying to get people working together and talking. This isn't the best forum, probably, to do that. He encouraged the Rec Committee and the Seniors to get together, sit down and try to figure out the logistics of this, to make it work for

everybody in town for the short term, recognizing that this is not the long-term solution. It is only nine weeks out of 52 and if someone comes up with an idea of where to send the kids for Wednesday and Thursday, that would be great, but keeping in mind all of the games and gaming tables at Community Center. It's not like sending them out to a grassy field for two days. That won't work.

Mr. Renzullo said it might be appropriate for Board members to visit the Seniors during their days, and maybe join them in line dancing, so they could see what they do and how they do it. It's not necessarily as regimented as a Rec Department program. They are older adults. Chairman Jasper said he has been there during line dancing and during Bingo games and he understands what Mr. Renzullo was saying. He understands the scale of what they are doing, and from his perspective, if they'd rather go to Bockes Road for the summer, that's something they can explore and see if they can make happen again. If that's not the best solution, they need to find something else. It really needs to come from the Seniors. He is getting the sense from the Board that they are not going to throw out the Recreation Department for Wednesday and Thursday, as much as some of them wish this had never happened. They have to deal with the reality that was handed to them. He knows that Selectman Massey feels strongly about that, so he asked what his solution was.

Selectman Massey said his solution was what they were doing with them all along. He was not supportive of moving them and it's not because of any vested interest with the Seniors or with any vested disinterest with the Recreation facility. He was simply looking at a contract that was made with this town that the Board of Selectmen accepted the Trustees of the Trust Fund's stipulations for the use of those funds. They can dance around the Maypole all they want, but what they've really been talking about is how to get the Seniors out of the building. That may be the way it goes down, but all of the different things the Board has been talking about tonight has been to figure out how to move them out of that building. The Friday thing is of particular interest because when he fills out his calendar it has set commitments for certain things, and he's sure it's the same thing with the Seniors. They have got their calendars set so they work based on that. He's not supportive of moving the Seniors out, primarily because of the commitment that the town made to use the Senior Capital Reserve Fund to help purchase the Lions Hall.

Chairman Jasper said he didn't disagree with that, and for 43 weeks of the year, that happens exactly as they were promised. He is not happy, but they could say tonight that the Seniors have the center Mondays and Fridays, or Thursday and Friday, and while that doesn't make them happy at all, it completes the contractual obligation. They never guaranteed the Seniors two specific days. They said two days a week they would have the building. To throw out the Rec for two days a week means they are being thrown out five days a week because of what they have to physically move. You can't just throw them out two days a week. He recalled how upset the neighbors in the Oakwood area were because they have been putting up with 200-300 screaming kids all summer long. That was a big problem, but logistically, it wasn't working on any level. This is a bad situation they have here. He'd be glad to support a motion saying the Seniors would have it Thursday and Friday and then the Rec would have to deal with Thursday. That would mean they would have to plan more field trips and the 200 kids that are there can go to Oakwood for one day and deal with what they can bring there. That's a fair solution and it addresses Selectman Massey's concern completely, but it won't make anyone happy. The Rec Committee could probably live with that, although they wouldn't be happy about it. Mr. Regan said there are safety and liability concerns. Everyone agrees that they've outgrown the Oakwood facility, even for a day. Chairman Jasper said it's a scenario that could happen without completely destroying the summer program. They could work around that, but he didn't think anybody wants to go there, so he didn't want to spend any time discussing that.

Alida Weergang asked if there was available parking for 100 cars at the Oakwood facility because most people come individually and drive themselves. Chairman Jasper didn't think they were talking about 100 cars because they wouldn't be able to play Bingo at Oakwood. It might be 50-60 for the meals and other things. There is not a lot of parking at Oakwood, but there is at Dr. H. O. Smith School. Ms. Weergang asked if it was an uphill incline. Chairman Jasper said the parking lot is behind the school gym, and across the street to Oakwood, it's flat. There is also parking right at Oakwood, along the street, for those with walking disabilities. There is ample parking to accommodate that, with a little logistics of people thinking about the fact they can walk across the street, so they won't park in front of the building—a little common courtesy. Not an idea situation, but there is parking there, but not 100 spaces. Selectman Robinson said Mr. Yates told him about 80 cars could be accommodated between the street and the school lot, so 60 would fit without any problem.

Mr. Renzullo asked who was in charge of scheduling the building. Chairman Jasper said that is still the Rec Department building, where Mr. Yates has his office. Mr. Renzullo said he was talking about the Community Center. Chairman Jasper said he had thought it was Community Development, but he heard a conversation the other day that indicated scheduling had been turned over to the Rec Department. Mr. Renzullo asked if the Town Administrator or the Board of Selectmen transferred that to Mr. Yates. Mr. Malizia didn't remember if the Board did it, but given the use, Dave, being the main, frequent user, has worked with anyone wishing to use it. If the Seniors, the Quilters or the Boy Scouts want to use it, they coordinate it with Dave. The town has gotten out of the rental business, which is when Sean Sullivan's department scheduled it. When it was transitioned to a recreational/community center, the schedule was kept in two places, but that didn't work out logistically, so Dave has taken the lead on keeping the schedule.

Chairman Jasper said he wasn't sure where this was being left. He had made a suggestion but wasn't sure it was going to go any place. They should try to figure out how this is going to resolve itself. Selectman Nadeau thought they should wait for Mr. Yates to come back with numbers and see what they can work out in the next week or

so with the Seniors. Chairman Jasper said that sounded like a reasonable suggestion. He asked Lucille to go up to Oakwood to take a look at it logistically to see what can work there and to think about other venues they could use for Bingo. He suggested she talk to the members to see if Friday Bingo would work for nine weeks, or if they'd rather go someplace else and the Board would see if they could find a hall would work. This isn't the answer they wanted to hear, but the Board was between a rock and a hard place.

Mrs. Boucher thanked the VFW very much for letting the Seniors go up there. They did lose some people because they didn't want to go that far up. A couple of people fell when they were up there. She didn't know if it was because the floor was so different, or what. The only problem they had there was they had stuff in their cars all summer long, but they had no choice. Chairman Jasper hoped they'd be able to work out some of those logistics so that doesn't happen this year. He asked if anyone has looked at the Kiwanis Hall. Mrs. Boucher thought they had it booked every day. Chairman Jasper didn't know how busy it was, saying that it always looked dead to him when he goes by. He assumed it was more nights and weekends than anything. Selectman Nadeau said maybe they could go there for Bingo. Mr. Renzullo asked if someone from the Board of Selectmen would be looking at that. Selectman Nadeau volunteered. Mrs. Boucher said they have Bingo Thursdays at 4:00 because she knows people who go. Selectman Maddox said the Seniors could go to that one from theirs. Mrs. Boucher said they have their own food concession. Selectman Nadeau said he'd give them a call and get back to them this week.

Chairman Jasper asked if anyone else wanted to add anything to the discussion. Selectman Maddox thought the Rec Department needs to look at what other options they might have. Is there anything they can do? Is there, that Thursday afternoon, that something could be done that takes the kids out? Is there something the Rec Department can look at, also? Chairman Jasper said if they were done with the discussion, he didn't necessarily want to close the evening off, but he wanted to separate the two groups, if there are other issues the Seniors want to speak to the Board about at this point, or if there are other issues the Rec Department wanted to address. He planned to call a recess and if either group wanted to stay to talk about any other issue, they were invited to do so.

At 8:23 p.m., Chairman Jasper declared a recess. The meeting resumed at 8:36 p.m.

Chairman Jasper said there was some confusion relative to former OPAC members and the fact they were invited tonight, so they need to have closure. He thanked them for the work they did. They came up with a good document and provided information that was asked for, but at this time, the committee is no more and they should not be referred to any more in terms of their membership and no further correspondence will be sent to them. They have done their job; they did it well and it's done.

Continuing, Chairman Jasper said in speaking with Mr. Renzullo during the break, he was surprised that they had the discussion that they did, as he wasn't anticipating that. When this workshop got scheduled, he didn't even remember why it was scheduled. Selectman Massey said they thought they were going to be talking about the scope of work project, but he explained that would be addressed on May 22. Once they understood that, everything fell into place.

Sue LaRoche, Vice-Chairman of the Recreation Committee, said in speaking with Dave Yates, Mick and the rest of the committee, the Recreation Department is looking to partner with the Seniors; they are not looking at us against them. They'd like to work with them and, in that light, they've talked about some logistical problems that the Seniors may have with equipment, moving things, etc. The Oakwood facility is large, about 26' x 40' so it is a large enough room for most of the Seniors' activities. The Rec Department is more than willing to send up counselors and kids to do whatever they need to do to make the Oakwood facility work for them. There is large storage closet there that they are more than welcome to use for all of their belongings and possessions—forms, tables, chairs. There is ample storage there and the Rec Department will empty it out so the Seniors will have enough storage space. Sending people up to help the Seniors is a no-brainer. It's good for the Seniors and great for the kids to do community service work for a group that needs it. It's something they plan to encourage during the summer. If the Seniors are willing to move Bingo to Friday afternoons from 1:00 – 4:00, is there no reason why they can't have both groups participate, so the kids can get involved with the Seniors? She hates the us against them, and hopes they can blend the two groups together, but somebody has to take the first step. She has been on the Recreation Committee for years, and it's frustrating for them, too, because the town has a liability issue if they put the kids back at Oakwood. God forbid they have a thunderstorm and they can't fit in all of the kids. That's a huge liability for the town. From that standpoint, it is huge, but they want to make this work, both for them and for the Seniors. They are a recreation facility and they want to do what is right for all ages, from 4 to 84, they want to provide recreation space and programs and help with that. If they have the proper venue, they'd love to do that. Some of the Seniors' logistical issues really aren't issues because at Oakwood, there is ample space and ample storage, with the exception of Bingo. Maybe Friday afternoon Bingo at the Community Center would work and they can blend the two programs.

Chairman Jasper said he was very happy to hear those remarks, and he was sure the rest of the Board was, too. Hopefully, they can come together and make this work in everyone's interest until they have separate buildings, but Lord only knows when that might be.

Selectman Maddox said one of the things they are going to talk about on the 22<sup>nd</sup> is the engineering study for the Community Center, but to make that work, they need to have a place to put the Rec Department. They have all talked about locating it up at Robinson Pond—47 acres surrounding the fire station and abutting the pond. He'd



like to see them start to move forward on doing something with that. He'd like to meet with the Town Engineer to see what he thinks it would cost to get that site surveyed and to do some sort of preliminary design of what a facility would look like so they can stop talking about it, much like the Community Center, and be able to facilitate something as a dual bond program in the near future. To that end, the Planning Board has collected \$70,564 as contributions from developers who have built houses over the last couple of years that if the Rec Department requested from the Planning Board, they would be willing to use some of that to start this process. Unless the Board objects, he'd like to meet with the Town Engineer to see what he thinks would be a reasonable number so he can put something together to try to move this forward.

Selectman Robinson echoed what Selectman Maddox said. It's time to join the two together and go forward with a project to satisfy both ends of the population. Take care of the children and take care of the seniors, at the same time. Possible, put a warrant article or bond out there, once they have the numbers to take care of both at one time and do a joint effort town-wide.

Selectman Massey said sometimes when you try to solve too many problems at one time, you solve none. He was having a hard time thinking a combined warrant article that it would pass. If they are going to do this, it would make sense to have separate warrant articles. Chairman Jasper agreed. They may be putting the cart ahead of the horse right now. If there isn't an accurate survey of that property, including topo, wetlands, etc., that information isn't going to change. Getting that done and then looking at it from that perspective is good to have done at any time. The budget considerations will be separately, but get that end of the work done, if it's not on record any place. Move forward with that end of it, certainly, adding that there was consensus on that.

**B. Budget to Actuals**

Chairman Jasper said they don't need to spend a lot of time going through it, but it's something they should do, and should have been doing, on a regular basis so they are aware of where they are at, budgetarily.

Mr. Malizia said if they took a straight line, they'd probably be at 75% because this represents nine months. Things, however, do not always happen in a straight line. In the Water Utility, the bond payments have been made for the year, which is 50% of that budget. With that money spent all at once, there will be a skewing of the expenditure rate. He looked at all of the accounts today to get a feel for any major issues. Bottom line, when he looked at all of the accounts and the revenue side, a few little things stuck out. Chairman thought they should review it, page by page.

(Start Tape 2-B)

When there is an over-expenditure, there is a paper transfer, which the Board signs off on. Mr. Malizia said there were some issues with collective bargaining, mostly arbitration and grievance-related. They appear to be behind them now, so he expects that won't be a continuing problem. The regular legal account looks OK. Finance Administration was a little off because last year's audit was more costly because more time was expended by the auditors on the trust funds. The Trustees were three new members, so there was still a learning curve there. When you spend a few dollars more on the smaller departments, it really shows because they don't have a big budget to cover it. With smaller budgets, things show up a lot more readily, relative to percent expended. He looked at the rest of the accounts, and it is not a problem.

Selectman Massey said since they show in the Water and Sewer Utilities the cost of the audit for them, would it make sense to show the cost of the audit for the Trustees in their budget. Mr. Malizia said that should be talked about during the budget process because there is a component of the audit that's related to the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Bottom line, it still comes out of the general fund so, at the end of the day, it really doesn't make a difference as far as the expenditures goes, but it may highlight that more resources need to be budgeted in a certain area because that part of the audit has taken longer. It's a few grand, not the end of the world. He also looked at Planning, which was another one that stuck out to him. They've encumbered the entire amount for the contract planner, even though they haven't expended it, so encumbrances also count towards expenditure because a commitment has been made. The town is getting compensated back from W/S Development for that.

Mr. Malizia said when he looked at the police budget, there are things that go up and down, but the bottom line is within reason. Sometimes folks transfer from detectives to patrol, from patrol to services, and their benefits may be budgeted differently from one cost center to another, but with both police and fire, they are very good at managing their budgets and they will, if need be, defer doing something towards the end of the year. Because they have such large budgets, they have the room to do that sort of thing. They are not as close to the vest as Legal, Finance or the Selectmen's budget. If something has to be replaced at the Police Department, they'll pay for it now, but there won't be a straight line. That's just a fact of life. Same with repairs in the Fire Department. They've had some vehicle repairs. You pay today, so it's not going to be a straight line. As he looked through the various accounts, there was nothing significant that jumped out of him as being a big problem. He thought they'd be OK by the end of the year. When he looked at solid waste, he wondered why it was 83%. They have the whole contract encumbered and the March bill hadn't been paid, as of this, so it's just a timing thing. When he did the math, he found they will come in exactly at that number, so they will be OK. They have eight months of expenditures and two months of encumbrances and then two more months to go, so that should be OK there.

Selectman Maddox referred to the Fire Department, both in Suppression and Communications, where it is 79%. Even though their bottom line is at 77, he didn't want to not do maintenance. Mr. Malizia said there are uniform

purchases, hose purchases, etc., that can be deferred. They are not going to not do something life-safety related. He's not worried about this right now. The town has sufficient resources and the Chief hasn't come to him with a problem, saying that he needed help. Last year, Kevin Burns had a problem because of the weather. That hasn't happened yet this year. There are some things that they budget for that, sometimes, they have discretion not to spend, but not something that's critical. They're not going to skimp on life-safety things, such as protective gear. Selectman Maddox when there is a \$3 million budget, and you're 79% today when you should be at 75%, it's hard to get that back down without running out. Mr. Malizia said they have a capital apparatus reserve, and they've already written the check for that, which is pretty substantial, so sometimes when you look at these, you have to keep things like that in mind. Selectman Robinson was sure the department heads know exactly what they are spending and are on top of it. Mr. Malizia said that is one of the things they are charged with. Last year, Kevin recognized that he had a problem and did whatever he could to mitigate it. If there is another one that arises, he will be contacted, along with KC and probably the department's liaison, too, but he's not aware of anything right now that would cause any of the big departments to overrun their budgets.

Chairman Jasper said they need to also look at the encumbrances, which are not a large amount, but overall, it's probably another percent or percent and a half, so that brings the number a little closer. Selectman Maddox said salaries are his issue. When you're at 79%, and you should only be at 75%, if that keeps tracking, you will be at 106-107%. When you are talking about a \$15,000 item, that can be made up, but a \$3 million line is something else. Mr. Malizia said he looked through them today and didn't see anything that jumped out at him. Chairman Jasper asked Mr. Malizia to touch base with the Chief on that line because it is the biggest number in there and see if he expects to be OK with it. They shouldn't have to put off purchases or maintenance. Sometimes, overtime is unavoidable, but other times it can be managed a little better, and that's probably part of what's driving it there.

Going to the next page, Mr. Malizia said in looking at the grand total of the general fund, and they're at 73%, which is well within reason. On the sewer and water funds, they look like a lot was expended, but some things happened with the sewer fund. A bunch of reserve funds are funded. They spent around \$400,000 on reserve fund funding and they do that right out of the gate, so on the first month, it is 30% spent, but it catches up by the end of the year. He looked through the sewer accounts and could see why it was front-loaded. They make the commitment payment to the trust funds, sewer capital expansion reserve fund, repair reserve fund, and those sort of things. A significant piece of the water budget is bonded debt. When they make the bonded debt payment, you're done. You've spent \$4 million like that, which definitely skews percentages. He looked at those and is comfortable they will come in where they should. He didn't see anything that indicated they wouldn't.

Selectman Massey said, with the capital reserve funds, if there was money set aside to put into them, state statute says they have to be transmitted to the Trustees within 10 days of the beginning of the fiscal year. The Trustees have an agreement with the auditor that they will wait until after the audit before they request the monies. That's why those monies get transferred at the very beginning of the year. Mr. Malizia said that was correct. The general fund seems to be going along at an appropriate clip, but he didn't go through every single thing. It looked reasonable. He looked at the sewer and the water, and on the sewer side of the books, there needs to be an accounting entry for the use of the fund balance. There is a line under revenue that says "use of fund balance," and that amount has not been transferred into the revenue column. It's an accounting thing they need to do. They are not looking at a shortfall in revenue billed to customers. In the Sewer Utility, when they did the budget, they were going to use surplus to help that budget and it just needs to be physically transferred over. On the water side, two things stuck out. They just did a billing to Pennichuck for the water they've used, so that is not reflected here, and there is some seasonality in their water use. In July, August and September, they dip and go back up in May and June. When he put that revenue budget together, he understands that they get that kind of skewing pattern. It looks like they are under, but they should be OK by the end of the year. He didn't see anything that caused him alarm and believes they will come in at or under their projections for expenses. If revenues hold to seasonal patterns, they should be OK there, too.

Selectman Massey said apart from the conservation purposes, having the odd-even water ban helps the revenues as well, because the water that's typically used in the summertime, a good percentage of it comes from Pennichuck and they are paying \$1.11 per 100 cu. ft. and it is only costing about 35¢ per 100 cu. ft. for the water they take out of the wells. If they do a lot of watering in the summertime, it is an added cost to the town.

Mr. Malizia didn't have any other major comments. He looked at each line and, knowing from experience what some of the lines are, he was able to deduce they are OK. He will talk to the Chief about his suppression budget.

Chairman Jasper said he wanted to go over the detail of the revenue report because there are a couple of points they may want to keep an eye on. One is on motor vehicle permits, which is running a little under. Traditionally, they've had more money coming in there. It may be a sign of the times, but they are running about 3% about where they should be. Not significant, but that won't be a revenue source they will be looking for a lot of growth in. Another one of interest is building permits, where they are at 63%. That has been relatively flat. People talk about growth, growth, growth, but they've taken in \$111,000 against a budget of \$175,000. Although this is the time when building really starts, he'd be surprised if they make projections on that one. He didn't know where W/S fees are showing up. This is one where they've talked about needing additional planning staff, and he's asked where the revenues are. Here is a case in point. Budgeted \$45,000; taken in \$14,000, so they are at 31%. That certainly is not going to come in anywhere near the budgeted amount. If they are thinking of adding staff,

they really have to look at what's going on, here, because they are not getting the fees that they were before. It's something to be thinking about.

Selectman Massey said the monies for that contract planner are being paid by W/S and the fees that they submitted, because they didn't meet the site plan regulations, were all returned. There was approximately \$21,000 in revenues that would have come in. The contract planner is being paid out of an agency account. Chairman Jasper said Selectman Massey was making his point, but in a little different way. W/S is certainly a one-time event for Hudson, so when you take W/S out of the equation and look at the whole thing, do they need another permanent town planner, versus what is going on with the revenues, and how that is justified on a revenue basis. His point has been that you can't and that continues to hold. W/S is a whole separate issue and they are handling that in the correct manner—contracted.

Mr. Malizia said, on a positive note, they've done real well on investments. That climate has improved. Interest on investments have improved. For some number of years, they were sucking wind, but things have improved. Selectman Massey asked if the March CPI cost of living numbers have been produced yet. Mr. Malizia said he hasn't looked. Traditionally, they are a couple months behind because they do it every other month.

## 6. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Nadeau – The Recreation Department is holding a Father-Daughter dance on June 8; Comedy Night is May 19; and the Seniors are holding a Scholarship Fundraiser Dance on June 2, all at the Community Center.

The CIP process has been wrapped up for this year. The School Department did send a representative. He thanked everyone on the committee. The rankings will be tabulated and then distributed.

Selectman Massey – The Ice Cream Social for town volunteers will be held on May 3 at the Community Center. To date, 35 people have RSVP'd, including guests. Everything he needs will be purchased at SAM's Club, including five gallons of vanilla ice cream and five gallons of Neopolitan at only \$5 a gallon. He expects about 100 people to attend.

Selectman Maddox said this weekend, he rode with the Fire Department, Group 4, and they had a number of medical calls. Having seen them in action, he was very impressed at the way they orchestrate what needs to be done. He can now understand why it takes so much manpower to do the procedures to get people calmed down, do the paperwork, and everything has to happen almost like it is choreographed. He was very impressed with what he saw. He also learned the importance of posting a list of medications on the refrigerator that people in that residence are taking. Trying to remember what Mom takes when she has just fallen down, or what Dad was on... keeping those up to date and accessible is so important because trying to remember when a family member is injured is sometimes impossible. If it is writing, stuck up on the refrigerator, you have that information at hand. If someone has multiple medical problems, it's a good thing to have a file readily handy to give the medical people because they don't want to start treatment if the don't know what someone is allergic to, or mix the wrong medications. It was an interesting day—and they eat good!

Selectman Robinson agreed with what Selectman Maddox said, adding that the Police Department has a Vial of Life program. The medications are in a vial, a pill bottle, that attaches to the inside of the refrigerator. One the outside is a sticker that says Vial of Life. On the program you register with 9-1-1, so if a family member calls, they have a history of the medications in the house and are able to tell the emergency personnel who go to the house what they are. He used to have the Fire Department's number on speed dial and they knew exactly where to go for Judy's medications. It's a fantastic program through the Police Department.

Selectman Jasper spoke on "the ongoing saga of Benson's," saying that it still isn't moving as quickly as he'd like it to, but finally the meeting with the Historic Preservation People will take place on May 15, much later than he'd have liked it to happen, but trying to get everyone's schedules together wasn't working well. Hopefully, they'll make some progress from there.

Relative to parking on Greeley Street at 7-Eleven, two weeks ago, he and the Town Administrator and Director of Community Development visited the site. It looks like something that would be feasible to do, and 7-Eleven is glad to work with the town. Mr. Sullivan will be getting two quotes from engineering firms to do the site plan. One of the engineering firms did the 7-Eleven site plan, so they have all of the backup documentation. Hopefully, they will have something from that soon. He asked the Town Administrator to follow up on that with Mr. Sullivan because that issue is becoming more and more pressing. They may have to do something with *No Parking* signs. He thought the Highway Safety Committee might have something in the works. Selectman Maddox said they didn't get a letter from anyone, no formal request—and they don't meet for another two months. Chairman Jasper said they may have to do something about that situation, sooner rather than later.

Chairman Jasper attended the Library Trustees workshop last night. They are still focusing on where they want to go. He wants to check into the possibility of working with the schools to see if it is feasible to use Library Street School, if that facility is going to be mothballed. One of the big concerns of people was the central location; they didn't want to lose that in a library. The information from 1983 was dug out, where they had looked at doing fundraising and hired consultants to look at all of the logistics. Apparently, that didn't really go anywhere. One of the problems with fundraising for something like this, when you go to people and you're asking for money for something that's going to end up on your tax bill, even if you give money, there's not a lot of incentive. The only way to overcome that is to get people to give very large sums of money and have rooms named for them, or have the library named for them. That is something they are looking at, and the saga continues as it has for the last 28 years.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Robinson, carried 5-0.*

Recorded and transcribed by Priscilla Boisvert  
Executive Assistant

**HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

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