HUDSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the September 24, 2024 Meeting

- 1. NONPUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:2 I (b) Consultation with legal counsel
- 2. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> by Chairman Guessferd the meeting of September 24, 2024 at 7:26 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall.
- 3. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u> Fire Chief, Scott Tice.

4. <u>ATTENDANCE</u>

Board of Selectmen: Bob Guessferd, Heidi Jakoby, Dave Morin, Dillon Dumont and Kara Roy.

<u>Staff/Others</u>: Jim Michaud - Acting Town Administrator; Elvis Dhima - Town Engineer; Scott Tice - Fire Chief; Tad Dionne - Police Chief; Christine Strout-Lizotte - Tax Collector; HCTV Production Coordinator - Mike Johnson; Paul Inderbitzen - Town Moderator; Lorrie Weissgarber - Executive Assistant.

5. <u>PUBLIC INPUT</u> –

John Hayes, Secretary for the Southern New Hampshire Radio Control Club, Litchfield

I just wanted to give you an update and make some other points that to continue where we're at. As far as progress goes, we were asked to remove everything from the top of the landfill so that the shelters could be taken down and moved off to the offsite. And, I do have to ask a question. And that's why do they have to be removed off site when you could dig down beside them. I know that there was a statement of work put to the state saying we're going to dig them up and what not. But, the results to the state would be the same whether dug down beside and found out how far down it is vs. removing them. I think it's a fair question. You know I come from an engineering background, I know I can get the same answers. I'll leave that for you guys to think about. Chairman Guessferd: Yes, because this isn't the dialogue here but, I get your question. John Hayes: You know moving on from there, when we were at the polls we had a lot of people come past us and stop and talk to us. Most of them said they didn't know we were up there. And that's because we were asked to keep a low profile, long ago. And we did that perhaps way too well. They were glad to know we were there and they really wanted to get themselves or the kids involved and you know, they were coming out of the polling area giving us the thumbs up and they were very enthusiastic. And you know, I have to ask if a decision has been made that we're not aware of? Because based on Elvis' email it sounds like when the shelters go down below they're not going to come back up if they're not removed in certain period of time they're going to be destroyed. And I don't understand that. If a decision hasn't been made I don't know how that statement can be made. Chairman Guessferd: Well I don't know if that statement has been made. But, the bottom line is I think you're going to have to work with Elvis to get the answer to that question. John Hayes: OK, but the Board has not made a decision. Chairman Guessferd: This isn't, this isn't the form for that. John Hayes: OK, alright. So you I'd still like to say that we're very willing to coexist with the solar farm and I think we can do that quite well. It's like we pointed out before, it's been done in other places. Basically, at the end of this, if we are no longer able to use this site, which I really hate to see, we'll be a homeless club. And I don't know what we're going to do from there. I know what happened to the Barnstormers, they just disappeared. They became nonexistent. I'd hate to see that happen to our club like ours that's been around so long. And the for the RC community, it's been a major southern New Hampshire fixture. Chairman Guessferd: Well I will say this, there is an ongoing study of effects on the cap and it's ongoing. So, the Board can't make any decisions until that is complete. And once based upon the results of that, there will be, we'll be talking about it, probably in public session here once we have that information. We just don't have that information yet. I will answer that to you at this point. And any details beyond that, you'll have to work with our Town Engineer to work through. John Hayes: Alright, very good. Thank you. Chairman Guessferd: Thank you for coming.

James Crowley – 4 Fairway Drive

I have to write mine out because I can't remember everything. First, thanks for having a scheduled public input on every Board of Selectmen agenda. Just so you are aware, not all Boards are compliant with a recent petition warrant article approved by voters for all Boards to have an open to public input on things a Board has general control over on each agenda. Hopefully the Board of Selectmen will explore that in the near future like they are for another petition warrant article approved by voters concerning a need for an infrastructure study. On

October 1st, you should know, the BOS has scheduled a meeting to hear the public, from the public on that. The BOS is stepping up to the plate and I hope the general public takes advantage of this opportunity to do so as well. The other reason I'm here tonight is even with public input allowed on agenda, not everything runs smoothly. Case in point is last BOS meeting on September 3rd where the New Hampshire DOT gave an excellent presentation on a Dracut Road intersection, they even recommended near and long-term improvements. They noted some near-term improvements can even be done by the Town of Hudson. You will be voting on approving the minutes for the September 3rd meeting tonight in agenda item 6E. At the start of the September 3rd BOS meeting, two members of the public spoke during allowed public input. I was the second person. In the minutes to be approved please read the first sentence of what I said. I quote, per the published minutes the first sentence I said was "I'd like to hear the presentation first then I'll have a bunch of questions." I can't say my English is the greatest, but hopefully the intent got there. At the end of the New Hampshire DOT presentation the BOS asked them what I thought were good questions. However, after that the NHDOT got up and left the room. The public, even though they tried to reserve time for public questions for the NHDOT to answer never was allowed to happen. I want the BOS to be fully aware and hope that scenario is avoided in the future that the public has asked for allowance to ask questions at the end of an agenda presentation item. So during item nine on tonight's agenda for Selectmen Liaison reports/other remarks, please do the following or consider it. Agree to request the Town Engineer to submit at earliest possible opportunity a time and cost report on near-term items of improvements that the NHDOT said Hudson could do and be responsible for. I generally like the working together and proactive positions the BOS is currently taking on petition warrant articles in the past tragedy on Dracut Road. Please keep up the good work and keep trying to prevent things from slipping through the cracks and forgotten. Usually no matter what the BOS does on most anything you get criticism more frequently than praise. In spite of that, please keep having the courage to do the best you can in performing your elected duties. Again, I want to thank the BOS member for all your efforts. Thank you.

6. <u>RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS</u> - None

7. <u>CONSENT ITEMS</u>

Chairman Guessferd asked if any board member wished to remove any item for separate consideration. Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to modify something for the consent items, if the Chair would allow me. On the calendar item F of consent items, just a reminder that the Highway Safety Committee is at 8:30 a.m. And I believe the ZORC meeting that supposed to happen didn't happen, so can we add that to this as well? I don't if Selectman Dumont knows when it is. Selectman Dumont: September 30th, this coming Monday. Selectman Jakoby: So September then just add September 30th for ZORC at seven? Selectman Dumont: Yes. Selectman Jakoby: Thank you. Chairman Guessferd: Just an edit to that calendar. Selectman Jakoby: Ya, those two edits. Because I know someone keeps showing up at the ZORC meetings and then there's no one there, so. Selectman Dumont: So this past one was a scheduling conflict that just happened. I wasn't notified until later in the day. And there was also a problem without email server. Multiple people were experiencing that. That is why that happened. I met Mr. Crowley outside unaware myself, so. It happened to multiple people. Selectman Jakoby: Thank you for that clarification. I appreciate it. So other than that I have no issue. Selectman Jakoby: We just corrected it. Chairman Guessferd: OK, so we will not remove it, we'll get a motion and we'll include that in a bunch of new ones who want to make a motion? <u>Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to approve consent items 6A-F, as amended. Motion carried, 5-0.</u>

- A. Assessing Items None
- B. Water/Sewer Items None
- C. Licenses & Permits & Policies
 - 1) Knights of Columbus Raffle Permit
- D. Donations
 - 1) Fire Department Donation Digital Credit Union
 - 2) Police Department Donation Digital Credit Union
- E. Acceptance of Minutes
 - 1) Minutes September 24, 2024
- F. <u>Calendar</u>

09/24 09/25 09/26 09/30 10/01 10/02 10/02	7:00 7:00 7:00 7:00 7:00 8:30am 7:00	Board of Selectmen Planning Board Zoning Board Zoning Board – ZORC Board of Selectmen Highway Safety Cmte. Budget Cmte.	BOS Meeting Room Buxton Meeting Room Buxton Meeting Room Buxton Meeting Room Hills Memorial Library BOS Meeting Room Buxton Meeting Room
10/02	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room
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7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on September 3, 2024

- Selectman Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to accept Director of Community Media, Jim McIntosh's recommendation to hire Brenden Nault as a full-time Production Coordinator with a starting salary of \$25.21 per hour (Step 1). Motion carried, 5-0.
- Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to accept Production Coordinator Johnson's recommendation to retain on-call services of retiring Director of Community Media, Jim McIntosh, at a rate of \$45.00 per hour, as needed, effective November 1, 2024 until the end of the current fiscal year, as amended. Motion carried, 5-0.
- 3. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to accept Fire Chief Tice's recommendation to hire Isaiah Whiteside for the position of Firefighter/EMT in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$22.00 per hour (Step 1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion carried, 5-0.
- 4. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to authorize the Fire Chief to enter into an MOU with the Professional Firefighters of Hudson Local #3154 which would allow Firefighter Gavyn Torres to remain on probationary status until either he satisfies Hudson Fire Department training and certification requirements and obtains his AEMT, or March 11, 2025, whichever comes sooner. Further stating, if Firefighter Torres does not obtain AEMT certification prior to March 11, 2025, he will be terminated and this termination will not be grievable, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion carried, 5-0.
- 5. Selectman Morin made a motion, which was not seconded, to move Fire Captain/AEMT Martin Conlon to Step 5 (\$102,051 annually) on the Fire Captain wage scale as outlined in Appendix B-2 of the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors Association Contract. There is no retro pay associated with this move and the employee will move to Step 6 upon the next anniversary date of their promotion, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion failed.
- 6. Selectman Morin made a motion, which was not seconded, to move Fire Captain/AEMT Dennis Haerinck to Step 5 (\$102,051 annually) on the Fire Captain wage scale as outlined in Appendix B-2 of the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors Association Contract. There is no retro pay associated with this move and the employee will move to Step 6 upon the next anniversary date of their promotion, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion failed.
- 7. Selectman Morin made a motion, which was not seconded, to move Fire Captain Training Officer Kyle Levesque Dennis Haerinck to Step 5 (\$106,133 annually) on the Fire Captain Paramedic wage scale as outlined in Appendix B-2 of the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors Association Contract. There is no retro pay associated with this move and the employee will move to Step 6 upon the next anniversary date of their promotion, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion failed.
- 8. Motion to adjourn at 10:03 p.m. by Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman Morin. Motion carried, 5-0.
- B. NHMA 2025-2026 Legislative Policy Administration/Discussion

Chairman Guessferd recognizes Acting Town Administrator, Jim Michaud to be talking about the NHMA2025-2026 Legislative Policy. Jim Michaud: So the Board had appointed me at the last meeting September

3rd, to be Hudson's voting delegate. And then the Board had expressed some desire to go over the policy positions to see if the Board had any direction they wanted to provide me on any of these NHMA policy positions. And that's the purpose of this being on the calendar under Old Business. Chairman Guessferd: OK, has the Board reviewed the policies? Does the Board have any questions or concerns? Selectman Jakoby: I didn't have any, the positions were clear. Chairman Guessferd: Yes, it was good to have the opportunity, though, for us to ... Selectman Jakoby: To review and give it some thought. So thank you for that opportunity. Jim Michaud: So I will go forward on Friday morning and voice support for... Selectman Dumont: I did have one question. And it's not really whether I'm for it or against, but just for more information. On one of the things where it comes to education funding that says that they oppose is education funding changes that would directly result in a reduction of the amount of municipal state aide. I was just wondering if that was related to Education Freedom Accounts that was signed, in which if they were, if that was what they were opposing, or? I mean you may not know that but that was just a question funding accounts. It more about if you're reducing funding going at the local level, then we know who's going to pay more. Local taxpayers. Selectman Dumont: Thank you, that was all I had. Chairman Guessferd: Anything else? Alright, moving on.

C. Employee Vacancies and Town Hall Status Update - Administration/Discussion

Chairman Guessferd recognizes Acting Town Administrator, Jim Michaud. Jim Michaud: Thank you. I believe at the last meeting this first part of the memo the Board wanted it to be stated the Board of Selectman named Steve Malizia as Acting Town Administrator beginning Tuesday, October 2024 until a new Town Administrator is hired. Beyond that, I've given you an update that I got from MRI, Town Administrator search. I talked to the Chairman Guessferd, he wanted to make sure that previous candidates had been notified MRI had notified me that they have been notified. Search 2.0 recruitment update, as of some point last week, MRI had reviewed about a half dozen candidates that had sent in their information and they spoke to a potential applicant that has now applied. So right now, it's still pretty early, but they had one candidate say last week that might be, that is viable. Deadline to apply for that is October 7th. So, it's kind of like right around the corner. Just looking at NHMA's website over the month of September through today, there's seven on there, including ours between Town Administrator's and Town Managers. I don't know if that's more or less it seems like a lot. IT Director search, the ads started being placed. I sent that out to the Board I think earlier this week, earlier last week I should say. There's one applicant from in-house, that's an update from what you have in front of you. So one person has applied from in-house, not me. That one, October 14th is the deadline to apply on that. Town Planner search. So, we thought we were going to interview two folks on a Friday and then on a Thursday one accepted another position and the other one was going out of the country and just decided they wanted to notify us after they came back. So, I asked MRI have you done any placements for a Planners, and they said maybe one or two a year, tops. They said it's a difficult position to recruit because you're not coming from the civilian side per se. So you're grabbing an associate planner from somewhere else or someone from another state. You're grabbing one from a regional planning commission. It's really hard. On the NHMA website there's about four in the month of September, including ours, that are looking for a planner and planner types. I didn't know if the Board of Selectmen wanted to entertain a similar recruitment process for this and give it a try with MRI. Have a similar IT Director kind of search that's a less expensive search. We've been doing it, we've been trying to for a while and I don't know, do you want to do something different? I don't know. Is it a waste of \$1500 to try it? I don't know, we haven't tried it. Chairman Guessferd: I think, I think we've got to go beyond where we are now. That's my view. Selectman Dumont: I was going, initially I was thinking the same thing. But I'm just wondering should we wait and see how the IT Director search pans out and how we fair on that and could put it into? Depending on how we feel how that search went, maybe use it for the Town Planner and that way you'd have a better feel or, I'm just throwing it out there for conversation. Selectman Roy: Yes, I think that it's been too long. We've been going too long without a Planner. I know we have a part-time person in there but, I don't think that that's adequate for our needs. Chairman Guessferd: Yes, long-term obviously. Selectman Roy: Yes, yes. But I, it's been since November of last year. Chairman Guessferd: We're almost on a year. I have another possible question here. Not a question. You state here that the person hasn't followed up since. I was aware they were on vacation or something, out of the country until the 16th or something. Did we try to contact them since the 16th? Jim Michaud: We have not and out of the two this was not the strongest candidate. Chairman Guessferd: OK, so which kind of ... Jim Michaud: People that are in the business. Chairman Guessferd: Which kind of framed, are not following up. Jim Michaud: We have not followed up. Chairman Guessferd: OK, should we? I don't know, sometimes, like I think we have to, I think we have to go out and do something here. Regardless of whether we follow up with them or not. So, I think the general consensus seems to

be here that we do a search. Selectman Jakoby: So, just for clarification, we're talking about right now possibly doing, contracting with MRI similarly as we did for the IT Director. Chairman Guessferd: Yes. Selectman Jakoby: So there's that level and then there's the uber level where we did the Town Administrator. Is there anything between those two? Selectman Roy: I'm sure there is. Selectman Jakoby: I don't know. You know if, to your point, is like how is this \$1,500 working for the IT Director? I mean it's a fair point. But then if that doesn't work, then are we talking about going further with MRI? Or, what were your thoughts. If you just want to take that one more step. Selectman Dumont: My only thoughts with that, I mean the \$1,500 they way it's going with me, they're pulling a pool of candidates together for us. So in my opinion by spending more money you're not going to get anymore candidates, you're going to get more services out of, possibly cutting them down or weeding out the bad ones. Which I think that we could probably do that on our own for this position. I don't think we need to go any further than that. I was just more or less curious how big is that pool going to get with that \$1,500 spent. Is it going to change? Chairman Guessferd: There's not a lot of candidates out there. Selectman Dumont: The only reason I even raise waiting to see how the IT Director one is because quite frankly right now Planning is fairing pretty well. Jay from NRPC is doing a good job on the interim. I get it's not where we want to be, but we're also not in hot water where you're back is against the wall, need to make a decision. I'm not against with going with MRI to do it. I was just seeing what you guys thought about how that \$1,500 is getting spent and how we thought the IT Director was working out. Selectman Jakoby: That's fair, thank you. Chairman Guessferd: Yes, I tend to kind of agree that, I mean from the fact that we know we're not going to get a lot of candidates. I mean this particular position, you know it's been advertised in a lot of different regional media. And maybe even Nashua, I'm not sure if we went Nashua or not. Again, New Hampshire is kind of, like we were talking about with the Administrator, it's unique. But, as you said, Jim, you're not going to get somebody from the commercial side, most likely. Unless, they have no experience at all. You know, you get somebody in who's young and you're probably not going to want that, you're not probably going to want an inexperienced person taking the Planner position in this town. So, the concern is that there's just not a lot of candidates out there. There just aren't. So, I don't mind spending the \$1,500, maybe we do use, when is the 14th? You said the 14th of October for the IT? Jim Michaud: Correct. Chairman Guessferd: Do we wait until the 14th and see what we got. Or, do we just go ahead right now? I know you're in favor of going ahead right now. Selectman Roy: Yes. I mean realizing there's not going to be a lot of candidates. It's just not a position we're going to get a lot of candidates. But, again, I think waiting, we've waited long enough, it's almost a year now. Chairman Guessferd: I mean if we're planning to do, to do this anyway, and maybe, you know like I said, maybe MRI will have some other aspects of, or other sources to go to find somebody. So maybe, hopefully that's what you're getting for that \$1,500. Because we might get a couple candidates. I just can't see us getting more than a couple or few candidates. Given everything we've done. I mean we've gone out many times in the last ten months, 11 months, ten months. And it's, you know, one here, one there. And yes, you're seeing things out there where certain towns are getting theirs filled, you know. But we're still not seeing more than one or two. I mean one of the ones we just had on, applied found a job somewhere else. They for us, I think, once find and identify somebody, we've got to go quick and interview them quick. We're going to have to make sure that if we do employ MRI that we are very closely in touch with them. They are the candidate that we, you know, we don't wait necessarily. If they're viable, we interview them. You know that may be the message to MRI if we go out for this \$1,500. Is to, basically do a rolling search, not wait like we did for the Town Administrator. Because we're not going to get the same level of interest, we're just not. Jim Michaud: We are going to need some flexibility on the interview panel. Because some of that hung up was I can't make it, I can't make it, she can't make it. It's whoever can be there. That's it. Chairman Guessferd: Right, and I've said in the past if I'm not able to make it, but everyone else can on, because it's myself, Selectman Dumont, Mr. Malley, the Board the Chair and yourself, I believe. Steve when he comes back. Selectman Jakoby: Well the other thing too is if, I know it is difficult to get a group together like that if we're concerned with how long it's taking then, you know, get someone to do the initial interview and have, even if it's one or two of the committee. And then they can recommend, OK, let's go to the next round and they interview with the other group. I think we have to look outside the box a little bit. Selectman Dumont: I will say that is what we did the last time, we picked that Friday and even that wasn't quick enough. Selectman Jakoby: Oh, OK. Chairman Guessferd: Yes, it was pretty guick and we were all able to make that one. Selectman Dumont: I would definitely agree. If has to even come down to seeing what days work for them, I'm normally pretty flexible as long as I get at least 24 hours. Chairman Guessferd: And so, I think so, is Chairman Malley. Selectman Dumont: I know you guys have been great, I haven't so. Selectman Morin: I think we're not going to get much. And being the state we're in and Massachusetts, the information's getting out there we're looking for somebody. No matter what MRI does, they're professional they could probably do a few different ways than we do. But, three weeks isn't going to kill us to see how the IT one does. Selectman Jakoby: Oh, OK. Selectman Morin: You know what I mean? Three weeks is ... Selectman Roy: It's

another three weeks without a plan. Selectman Morin: No, I understand that. But, we've gone this long, it's got to be out there. We've been since November, people know we're looking for it, they're just not coming here for some reason. Because people that in a small town and want to move into a bigger, you know, and improve their career, this would be the place to jump to. Why aren't they? That's the question. Selectman Jakoby: That's fair. Chairman Guessferd: And the other thing is MRI will also give us a more outside view of that why. Maybe it's salary? Maybe, well you know that's the elephant in the room. I mean, or maybe it's something else, you know. Selectman Dumont: Could be the guy laughing over there. Chairman Guessferd: We're not paying attention to that. So, we had some, I think we all agree we need to do this. Selectman Jakoby: Can I just ask one other question? What is the expectation of the IT Director? So, if we feel that we've gotten a good pool from MRI, you know, what five to ten candidates? Then we feel good about moving forward with them for the Planning position? Selectman Morin: I think a good pool is two people to tell you the truth. Selectman Jakoby: Alright, that's it, I'm good. Chairman Guessferd: We have one now. And we'll see about that. Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to put that, you know ... Chairman Guessferd: MRI will also do some of that vetting that will, you know ... Selectman Morin: Eliminate so of them before we even get there. Chairman Guessferd: Right, right to get to the viable one or ones because you know it's going to be more that one. So, I guess the bottom line is we want to do it, the question is the timing. So, I think there's a couple others that think we should wait, maybe we should do it right away. Selectman Morin: Again, I just think we've been going since November and we've gotten nowhere, three weeks isn't going to kill us. Just to make sure. Chairman Guessferd: I tend to lean there but I do understand the fact that it's been. And the point is well made Mr. Minkarah has been doing a great job. You know ... Selectman Roy: No doubt, he's only part-time. Chairman Guessferd: So it's, I don't like to lean on that, but at the same time, you know, we can see, you know, we're going to come back on the eighth. So, in two weeks we're going to come back. So, my view would be let's wait for the two weeks and let's see what's come up. If we got anymore candidates on the IT search there. If not, and that's just me, so we can vote on this if we want, we can do a motion. To immediately initiate the search or to make a decision at the next meeting. Or, we can just table it for the next meeting. But, I want to give everybody a chance to vote on their preference here. So, do we have a motion? We don't have a motion. So, I think the bottom line is for right now we'll table is until the next meeting, I'll put it on the agenda. I think the bottom line is we want to do the search, but the question is at that point we'll pull the trigger or not. We'll probably pull the trigger at that point. In the meantime if you could let us know how things are going or at least let me know how the IT position is going, do we have more candidates? Because this may be one of the ones where pull in some, if we've only gotten one, and another week goes by and we've only gotten one, maybe we bring that one in and interview the one. And then we'll go, you know, if there's another one, because there's not a lot of vetting that you're going to be doing at that point. OK. So we'll move on into new business then. Jim Michaud: I did have two other things in the memo, if I could. Human Resources discussion, that was in the minutes. There wasn't a lot of backup documentation in the minutes about this. I think the focus had been on the Assistant Town Administrator position. There was talk about well that one's kind of going to be kind of in charge of Land Use division. But, no we want to make sure they have some Human Resource, I think the ad was changed a little bit to add Human Resource background. I don't know if were preferred, I forget what the right word was. So, it was talked about in the minutes so I just wanted to address it briefly here. Selectman Roy: Personally I'd like to see a stronger, than just preferred Human Resources. Like somebody that actually has Human Resources background. I think we're in desperate need of somebody that has Human Resources background. Selectman Morin: And I believe we put that off, the Assistant Administrator, until we got our Administrator. Selectman Roy: And then we can discuss it with the new Administrator like how we want to ... Selectman Morin: Right. Chairman Guessferd: Based on who they were, what kind of background they had. So, yes I think we're still in a holding pattern there, but, understanding that that is a key skill that we need. OK. Jim Michaud: The last item that I cleaned from the minutes was Town Hall Assessment Study. So we're still pending a study, the results of that study from NorthPoint Construction. We're supposed to get a draft deliverable by the end of September, which is pretty soon into next week. And then a discussion and that draft document would come up at the October 8 Selectman's meeting is the intent. So, my phraseology there was a little off where I talked about the budget process but it's really bringing it up at the October 8th meeting. It's back to (inaudible), don't have it yet, it's pending, hope to have it by the end of September. Chairman Guessferd: OK, and that's just a draft basically. Jim Michaud: Correct. Chairman Guessferd: So we would then review the draft and if we do get that in, would the idea be to distribute it to the Board through an email? Jim Michaud: Yes. Chairman Guessferd: And we have, we can come prepared to the eighth meeting. Jim Michaud: That's all I have under Old Business. Chairman Guessferd: OK, thank you. Appreciate that, Jim.

10. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

A. Town Code Chapter 317 Vehicles and Traffic – Police/Public Hearing

Chairman Guessferd recognizes Chief Dionne. So here I will say a few things, here so. The hearing addresses truck, commercial vehicle and heavy vehicle limitations on Speare Road. Based on RSA41:11-b, we are required to hold a Public Hearing to take any additional public input. Do we want to say anything first? Chief Dionne: Yes, sure. Obviously what this was looking to do was a no-through truck traffic on Speare Road from Kimball Hill to Bush Hill both directions. Exemption to that is anybody doing business on that road or any side streets that are required to get to by that road. There's a couple of side roads off of Speare Road that that would incorporate as well. And I think Selectman Dumont, we last met on this in August, so. Selectman Dumont had mentioned, you're looking at a ton and a half vehicle that would, even a Tesla is 4,500 lbs. so I was looking into that. When we actually scheduled this, we can indicate what part of that schedule. We can actually say well its heavy trucks because heavy trucks are defined in the ordinance and they refer to the RSA 259 which gives us definition of certain types of heavy vehicles. We'd be able to indicate in that schedule it'll be the street and particular times, so that would be all the time. What directions, that would be both sides, both directions, and then we can indicate what type of traffic. And we indicate heavy vehicle that'll cover the stuff that's in 259 which would be like semis, semis, things like that. It won't be the tone and a half trucks. So, to your point when you had said that I knew I had to figure that out for the next meeting. Selectman Dumont: I appreciate that. Chairman Guessferd: OK, good. So, at this point we're going to open the Public Hearing. So, we will open the Public Hearing at 8:03 p.m. Is there anyone present who would like to speak on this matter? Seeing none. We will close the Public Hearing at 8:03 p.m.

B. Proposed Sewer Rates Increase – Engineering/Public Hearing

Chairman recognizes Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Elvis Dhima: Thank you Mr. Chairman, good evening everyone. As you recall on the last meeting facing the budget season we're looking at making some necessary adjustments to pay as we go for what we need for operations. Averages resulted in two increases that's been proposed. One in January and one later on. Ten percent each which is going to result for an average family that currently pays about \$45 to \$50 (inaudible) a 10% increase per quarter which is about \$3.30 per month. With that said we have a Public Hearing tonight to see if anyone has any questions about it. I will tell you before you open that, I have not received any calls, anything related to this, we typically do. I just wanted to put it out there, I have not received anything related to this on my end. So, we'll go from there. Chairman Guessferd: OK, so the hearing addresses truck, commercial ... addresses the proposed sewer rate increases. Sorry about that. Based on RSA 149-I, we are required to hold a Public Hearing to take any additional public input. Opening the Public Hearing at 8:05 p.m. Is there anyone present who would like to speak on this matter? Seeing none, we will close the Public Hearing at 8:05 p.m. Selectman Jakoby: Can I ask one question? Chairman Guessferd: You can. Selectman Jakoby: So the only question that I heard from this and I thought two people were coming tonight. Was these sewer rates apply to both residents and commercial? Elvis Dhima: Correct. To everyone across the board. Selectman Jakoby: So the commercial rate, everybody is raising because someone asked me that and my understanding was everybody's sewer rate is going up. Elvis Dhima: No, only to the residents. We're going to give the businesses a break. We're looking out for them. Selectman Jakoby: It's across the board. So I just wanted to clarify that, that was the question that was asked of me. Elvis Dhima: And they will feel it a little bit more than the residents because their rates are slightly a little bigger. You know when it comes to the meter size, they're the ones that have the bigger meters. So their rates from a flow rate will be the same as the residents. But, from a meter rate, because they have the bigger meters for water, they will be applying a higher rate for that so they will feel it a little more than the residents. But, residents which represents over 90 something percent of the base, they will not see much of an increase. Selectman Jakoby: Right. So, everybody's rate is going up. Elvis Dhima: Correct. Selectman Roy: So, I just want to be clear because you said you talked about water in that little, it's just the sewer rate that's going up. Elvis Dhima: Just the sewer. The water we're not touching, you are correct. Selectman Roy: OK. I just wanted to make sure that we're clear on that. Elvis Dhima: Yes, we based the meter on basically the meter that they use for the water itself and then there's the flow itself. But as far as the water goes, we're not touching the water. Selectman Roy: OK. Elvis Dhima: Only the sewer as of tonight. Chairman Guessferd: OK, any other questions? Yes. Selectman Dumont: Someone brought it up last time and I'm going to ask you again, is there any chance, or did we look into using any part of the sewer connection fee to create a savings or offset this cost in the future? Most likely obviously through a warrant article that would have to change but. Elvis Dhima: So we did look into that and we talked to the auditors as well. So, if you choose to go and start using basically capital reserve funds instead of the savings that you had. You're basically not, you're not resolving this issue which is basically you're spending more than you're bringing in. And what you would do is basically doing the same thing you've been doing which is borrowing from another account. It's not good practice, it doesn't look good on the books. So, the recommendation is being forwarded in front of you tonight is basically stick with what has been proposed which is adjust the rates. If you include some savings here through this increase, leave it there to offset in the future. But, leave the capital reserve funds for capital reserve projects, don't touch that account. There's no other accounts right there. But to your point, if this particular increase results in some savings for us down the road for x, y, and z reason, which I don't see, let's just say it does, you can use that for future offsetting the rate in the future. Does that make sense? Selectman Dumont: It makes sense but, I would honestly look at using some of that sewer connection as a savings to offset that no different than using some of these proposed savings if they were to happen that way. Elvis Dhima: No, I hear you. Selectman Dumont: I'm not talking about using the entire sewer connection fee because I understand that there's other things that that has to go to. But, I think a little bit of it would eventually go a long way as we're probably going to run into problems in the future. Elvis Dhima: Yes, we went through the exercises and I said we asked, we went internally and we felt that basically leave everything as is with the accounts that we have right now. The sewer connections go for capital reserve funds and other things as well. The capital reserve funds is the only money you really have you can tap into. That's your big bank right now. It's about nine or ten million dollars in there. That would be the only one that would make sense. Some of those connection fees goes to that, the rest goes for paying for other things. The water kind of works the same way. But there's nothing there that you can really tap into to really offset this. This is a long time coming, we just put it off. This could have been started two or three years ago. I guessed it last time, we do things here because we can't do them anymore the way we do and I show up here and I tell you we can't do it any longer and this is what we need to do. But, we did go through the exercise, I did ask the questions. We talked to finance, we did get some feedback and this is the proper way of doing it to balancing the books. Selectman Morin: To speak on Selectman Dumont's question. We've got some other things coming forward that we've done this at long time and now we're paying \$245,000 that are coming out of a budget to make up. So ... Elvis Dhima: We're in a hole. Selectman Morin: That's going to be coming it's the same type of thing. We've waited so long and got ourselves into such a problem that now we're going to have to, unfortunately the rates are going to have to go up and higher than we normally would. Because instead of doing it over time, we're doing it all in one shot. Selectman Dumont: No, I agree. I'm not against that, I'm talking about trying to prepare for something for the future so that don't continue to do that. Selectman Morin: The future would be to do it in increments where we should instead of waiting so long. Selectman Roy: Because it's been 20 something years since the sewer rate went up. Elvis Dhima: And our sewer rates are still one of the lowest and our sewer rate is still lower than 1993, 1994. So, we're still, we're about half of what Nashua and Manchester charges. So, we still provide one of the lowest. But, we still did make some adjustments. It's not because of us either. It's because the cost is being put on us because the treatment is not happening in Hudson. We don't have a treatment facility, we send it to Nashua. So, it's not that what we're doing is something wrong, we're not. We're simply being handed over a bill and we've been absorbing that for years now and we used the savings that we had and now we no longer have any more money that we can use for this. We don't want to use another account for this which is the capital reserves that we use because it's not really changed in the books. But, what we're doing is making some necessary adjustments to the rate that we don't have to be in the situation for a while. And hopefully, we go through this every three to five years to make sure we don't see and increase like this. But, we as I've said and I'm going to say it again tonight, the rules when it comes to the waste water treatment are changing. With that, what that means is cost and it's only going to get more expensive. Hopefully we continue to enjoy these rates, but as I said I think the good times are over and we're going to have to have some difficult decisions ahead of us. Chairman Guessferd: Do we have any other questions? We're good? Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to say thank you Selectman Morin. That's the important thing I think for our citizens to know is that the cost of sewer has increased over the years. We used an offset over the years and now that offset has dried up. Now we have to come to terms with that for all our sewer, all our people who have sewer and we're going to try and have a better process and visit this more often going forward. Elvis Dhima: That's correct. Chairman Guessferd: Alright. Elvis Dhima: Actually, you should have a motion for this. You have to adopt them tonight. So you had the Public Hearing. Chairman Guessferd: You're right. So do we have a motion? Elvis Dhima: The motion would be to adopt the proposed sewer rates, as recommended by the Town Engineer and Finance Director. That would be the motion. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to adopt the proposed sewer rates, as recommended by the Town Engineer and Finance Director. Motion carried, 5-0.

C. Melendy Road Bridge Over First Brook/Transfer of Funds – Engineering/Decision

Chairman Guessferd recognizes Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Elvis Dhima: Thank you Mr. Chairman. As you all recall recently we completed, we successfully completed Lowell and First Brook Bridge rehabilitation. I don't know if you saw it or not, because we're under the bridge, we were being sneaky, we were so good that you won't

even see us as we do bridge rehabs. Believe it or not we were under budget on this one by \$16,000. So, when I got the call I thought it was over budget, I said oh God who's going to tell them? But, it was negative. So, long story short, we have closed books on this project and this is ARPA funds that we received during COVID. The ARPA funds was used for infrastructure projects and what we're proposing for you tonight is to take the leftovers from this project and move it to Melendy Bridge which is the next project in line. As you recall we got approval at the last minute to get on the bridge aide. We started with a million, right now its \$1.14 million that they have dedicated to the town of Hudson with 80% match from the state and 20% from us. We have money from the bridge aide, we're going to use this account and then we have \$100,000 the Hudson taxpayer paid for through a warrant article to make the delta. So, that project will be in front of you in November because it's out to bid right now. And I'm hoping you transfer these funds to be used for that project. Chairman Guessferd: Do we have any questions? <u>Selectman Dumont made a motion , seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to approve the transfer of excess funds of \$16,318.85 from Lowell Road Bridge over First Brook (114/083), account #: 7212, as recommended by the Town Engineer and Finance Director. Motion carried, 5-0</u>

D. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Closure – Engineering/Discussion

Chairman Guessferd recognizes Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima: Thank you Mr. Chairman. As you recall, last year early last year we were notified there was about \$75,000 available from New Hampshire Department of Energy related to conservation, energy conservation related projects in our buildings. We selected the Town Hall. We filed for it, we got it, we got about \$75,000 and we utilized \$73, 525 and change. Out of that, which is about 97%, I'm pleased to tell you that we met all the requirements and we got full reimbursement from the state on that. So, with that \$73,000 that was paid by grants, we were able to replace 41 windows at the Town Hall, add additional insulation for 6300 sq. feet of the ceiling and replace 75 LED installation, new LED lights at the Town Hall. This room was one of them because you guys deserve it. Off with the old LED lights here. This was a great project to get done basically through a grant. I can tell you the first year my ten years here I noticed the AC keeping up for the first time especially on the flat roofs. We had no insulation in some areas on the top and with the new improved features we installed, you can tell the difference. So, that's going to help us with the electrical bill, heating bill and everything else goes. And we didn't have to pay for it, even better. So it was a win, win. With that said, this particular item in front of you tonight will serve as a time stamp in the process basically saying we recognize that we completed it. It's closed, we're done, game over. In case someone asks down the road saying is this still open, did you close this up? When we can say at this meeting, Board of Selectmen meeting we closed it. I'll take any questions you may have but no action is required by you at this time. Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to say thank you for all the work that was done through this grant. And to all the many people that were hired and here. I was here during some of the window installations and stuff and it seemed to go really well with little disruption of Town Hall. I don't know if that's true but that was my perception. So, I thought it was a very well done project. So thank you. Elvis Dhima: There wasn't a lot of complaints and that's unusual for the Town Hall. So it was good, you're right, you're right. Chairman Guessferd: Any other further discussion. Do we have a motion? Selectman Dumont: We don't need one. Selectman Jakoby: No action necessary. Elvis Dhima: No action required. Selectman Jakoby: It's just officially in the public minutes. Chairman Guessferd: There we go, OK.

E. Water Utility Grant Acceptance/Marsh Road Booster Station - Engineering/Decision

Chairman Guessferd recognizes Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Thank you Mr. Chairman. This was a very pleasant surprise at the last minute Senator Carson reached out to Selectman Morin recently about \$6 million dollars available at the state level from ARPA funds during COVID. They were trying to reassign this projects for any infrastructure projects related in New Hampshire and they focused on water related infrastructure projects. Selectman Morin reached out to me, I started making calls. I didn't even know where to go, it was one of those things, there's \$6 million out there go for it. I'm like where? It was very, this one was different. Long story short, we ended up submitted a request to GOFER agency, which is the one State of New Hampshire agency they handled all the ARPA funds related to COVID relief programs. And I am pleased to tell you that we were selected out of bunch of, actually a lot of projects submitted. We were one of the four that got the full amount of \$109,350.00. So with that said, you need a Public Hearing with a 10 day notification which will happen on the 8th. I'm just here to let you know that we are in, we got it, and hopefully on the next meeting we accept the grant if there's no, no one has any issues and I'll be asking you to assign me as the principle for this and we'll be submitting the paperwork on the 9th which is ready to go. That's it, I'll take any questions you might have. Chairman Guessferd: Do we have any questions? *Selectman*

<u>Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to advertise a public notice related to this grant and schedule</u> <u>a Public Hearing for October 8, 2024 Board of Selectman meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.</u>

F. NH State Parks Land & Water Conservation Fund Request Grant – Engineering/Decision

Chairman Guessferd recognizes Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima: Thank you Mr. Chairman, another grant because we haven't had enough of those. You guys are just addicted to them, I think you need help. Get yourself some help. I don't know, we've been very lucky, we just, I don't know. We've done pretty well. So, as you recall I came in front of you not too long ago to ask you to submit an intent for a grant related to \$1 million related to Parks & Rec. In this particular case Robinson Pond Road which has had a lot of support from Conservation and the Town trying to improve water quality there and assets that we have. We have come across this \$1 million grant which is a 50/50 match related to the beach are for residential use, the parking area related to it and the boat launch. Please to tell you that we got notification to move forward. To do that we need to figure out what we are going to do. So, what we have so far in front of us is the fact that Conservation Commission has dedicated about \$110,000 related to the design and the permitting related to the beach area and the boat launch which is great. We have an opportunity for the construction phase of this project to go for this particular grant we're talking about. The one thing we have to figure out tonight is more of a restriction that's out there. The boat launch is open to everyone. The beach are at that the time it was established was open to everyone. Sometime in the 70s the Board at the time decided to close that up only for residential use only. I don't know why, the beach are only. So that's close now to only residential use. As you know it's not much use there because we have a water quality issue. It's always closed all the time, there's not a lot of love being put there right now. Not a lot of effort or resources. For us to go for the grant, we have two options. We can open up the beach to everyone and to do that you need to have two Public Hearings to change the code of the Town. And the second one is just to say no, we're going to leave it as is. We're not going to be able to put any grant money into that, we're just going to focus on the boat launch. So there's some pros and cons to that. If you open up the beach area, you can build the parking area now to basically support the people that go to the beach. You can assign a number to it, you can close the area completely with a gate and only allow so many people to go in. Because now you're going to have a capacity for the parking lot but also the beach as well. If you have the entire are subject to this grant, it provides the ability to now to go to future grants as well that match. Some of them 100% for future development of this particular property, including anything related to recreational use of this including, full blownout bathrooms. It's completely covered. It's a great opportunity for the town but, you as a Board have to decide which way would you like to go? And that's why you have two motions in front of you tonight. I can tell you this went in front of the Conservation Commission and that's why the first motion is coming with Conservation Commission support because they are recommending to you to make the change to the beach area, open it up and then go for the full amount of grant which is \$1 million. And again, I don't know if we're going to get it or not, this is going to be a very tough one, there's going to be a lot of elbowing action as I like to call it. But, based on the feedback we received from the state agents at the time, we have a beautiful place that can go to a whole new level there if we do this the right way. So with that said, I'll take any questions you might have and see which way you'd like to go. Selectman Morin: Three things what puts us up on the list to get the grant is we are basically shovel-ready. Because we're in the process of doing the engineering at ... Elvis Dhima: That is, that is one of them that they're just over the top basically saying this is going to be shovel-ready. And so the permitting with Army Corp. and the state and the dredge and fill and all that, that's already underway. VHB, Inc. is taking care of that through Conservation funds. Selectman Morin: Number two is we can actually charge for the use of the beach now. And they had talked about a card system or credit card whatever, however we decided. And to get in you would have to go through a gate and either you would have to have the town card or your credit card, whatever, that's something we can talk about after. Elvis Dhima: And I just want to add something to that point because that's a good point. You can charge non-residents up to three times as much as a resident. So let's just say you want to charge a resident \$5 for the season. You have the ability to charge someone who's not a resident \$15 to basically kind of offset your cost. You do have that, you don't have to but you do have that option. Selectman Jakoby: There's flexibility. Chairman Guessferd: Would it require getting the pass (inaudible) or do you have to have somebody there manning it? Elvis Dhima: You can do it either way. We talked about that. You can set up like a booth, just like you do at a parking lot when you pay and you get in. We can set it up either way and that could be subject to a grant that you can get to set it up that way. There's different options but explained it to us that that's one way to do it. Selectman Morin: You can have somebody, you could have an attendant or you can just have a gate, an electronic gate. And the third thing is we have not enforced that resident law since we haven't had lifeguards there which has been at least 20 years. So we're not doing it now. Selectman Jakoby: I am really encouraged. I really think the recommendation by the Conservation Commission to open this up. I know that

I've spoken to many people about Robinson Pond about their fond memories of being there, of swimming there. I've swam there. I, when I moved here it was a draw for me. So the idea that that can become much more of a useful recreational area makes a lot of sense to me. And to at least have the opportunity for the public to come in and voice their opinion about whether we should open it up or not. I see the first motion as a really good step in this direction. Chairman Guessferd: Anybody else? Do we want, my view is the Conservation Commission has approached this, has recommended it, done some vetting on their own. I'm certainly in support of the first motion myself. Whatever motion we want to make. Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont, to pursue the grant application for the improvements for the boat launch and the beach area, as recommended by the Conservation Commission and to schedule two public hearings, at least 10 but not more than 21 days apart regarding the removal of the beach are restriction. Motion carried, 5-0. Chairman Guessferd: The only thing I'll just mention because it's been said is it's a 50% match. So if we do this we're going to have to as it says ... Elvis Dhima: That's exactly it. So this, even if it goes through the public and the taxpayers still have a chance to vote on this one way or another to see if we want to do this or not. If they vote in favor of this, then obviously we'll go through the exercise, but we will get half a million dollars back. We have to raise a million but, we're going to get ... Chairman Guessferd: So we'd have to make the warrant article for a million. Elvis Dhima: That's right. You're needing the full amount even though you know, you only have to come up with half, that is correct. Chairman Guessferd: Right, with 50% offset by... Elvis Dhima: in the warrant article it'll say exactly that. That are raising a million but we are getting 50% back or half a million. So that will be, and it will be obviously, different meetings and we can explain that to people.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you very much. And I want to thank Mr. Crowley there for assigning more work for me. Thank you I always appreciate that you know. Just kidding, have a good night.

G. September 10, 2024 State Primary Election Recap – Moderator/Discussion

Chairman recognizes Selectman Town Moderator, Paul Inderbitzen. Thank you ladies and gentlemen. I sent you the information and the statistics from the Primary on September 10th. But for the viewers there was just under 4,000 voters who voted at the primary about a 23.7% turnout. And that's pretty average if you looked at the numbers in the past State Primaries. It's about what we've done in the past. Wasn't anything unusual in terms of turnout it wasn't a bad day. We had, of course, obviously no parking problems and no access problems. There was a little bit of a glitch, not a glitch, but some maneuvering in terms of Memorial School because we're just back into that and it's a whole new ball game. There was some issues an organization, not organization, but people knowing where to go and stuff. And so we need to do more signage there and I think actually the new Town Clerk has picked up on that is going to really do a lot for the November one. So we can get a little more there. A little bit tough setting up two in the afternoon because we used to set up at the Community Center early in the morning. But, the DPW did a really fantastic job of setting up Alvirne and then getting over to Memorial and they beat everybody else over there. So, they were very quick. And then they didn't have to take that down until the next morning. Alvirne they have to take down because it's a cafeteria and the have to set up for the next day. But at Memorial they were able to go in before school started on Wednesday morning and take down the booths at Memorial. So they have that option. It does make a little bit different. A problem, not a problem but, the issue of plugs is always an issue because now that we're using poll pads we need two plugs for every pull pad and that really sets up some difficulties. You notice we only had 74 voting day registrations, which is pretty standard for a Primary. We probably will have close to 1,000 for the November election. Although, the Town Clerk and the Tax Collectors office are really aggressive when people come in to register their car, their dog or whatever. Are you registered to vote, do you want to register to vote? And they're doing a lot of that and they're getting people to register. So that I think is a plus and that may reduce that same day registration. Absentees will also be up close to 1,000, we're over 500 right now and we still got a month left. So the absentee registration, or request will be going out and that's going to take a while. I made arrangements to get two more poll pads. We're going to get two loaners for this election, but we're actually going to buy two more to do just absentees. In 2020 we had 5,000 absentee ballots to count. I had a crew of about 12 or 14 people just doing that and it took them all eight hours or 10 hours to do. It was a long day. This is a little different because with the poll pads you, after you open up the envelope and confirm that the signature is on the affidavit envelope you then have to check them into the checklist. Before we had to go down to the paper checklist and interrupt people checking people in so that we could do that. Now currently, we were taking one of the poll pads from the Supervisors and using that to do the check-in's and it took her about two hours if you looked at the numbers there in the check-in's. Took about two hours to do about 212. So, a 1,000 is going to take a while. So I realized then, because when we first went with poll pads the Supervisors at the time said oh we really don't, they're not useful for us. Well, they are useful and they're finding that out. I made arrangements I have money in this year's budget so we were able to order two poll pads. We won't get them until next year because it's an updated operating system but they will give us two loaners because we put the order in for two. And I was able to take the money from the tabulator fund because after we approved the \$7,000 for eight tabulators the state came in and said we'll cover half of that. For the ones we own, we only own five, we rent two. So, we'll get that money back so I have, the poll pads are about, will be about \$3,600 for the two of them. So that will be able to be covered in this year's budget. I was going to put in my next year's budget. I think that will help us immensely in terms of that getting the absentees done away from everybody else. They won't interfere with the Supervisors, they won't interfere with the check-in people. I think we can do that and if in the future they need to be like if we have a big one with not a lot of absentees, we can move one down and have five check-ins instead of four. Although four check-ins, even with a big crowd, like we did in the Presidential with 7,300 people moves rather well. You know there was really not a big line. The long line is because at Alvirne was because people lined up in a single line and they don't realize they can go into four. So we're going to try to figure out how we can do that. I may just be greeters that say OK come over here you can get in this line here and that line. There's going to be, we're going to look at that. We're going to look at how we set that out especially Alvirne's a little tight because the vestibule is so small, the lobby there. At Memorial you've got most of the gym so you have a nice que, as long as you're giving people direction of where to go. I guess that was a thing that we hadn't thought of, or we thought of but we didn't think would be a problem and I guess it was. There were a few complaints about that. I understand that everything else I don't know about the outside I understand Selectman Morin was very helpful in directing people for at the electioneering section. We posted it, we have it online but, you have a lot of people who are not from Hudson who are electioneering for the different candidates. I don't know what else we could do unless we ask the Chairmen of the town committees, the two committees, Republican and Democratic to get the word out that we do have it. It's on line you can look it up, where the electioneering is, where they can park and it works well. And we have an ordinance, it's not like, technically with the ordinance we can enforce that. That's an enforceable ordinance. State law requires that all signs on the property need to be manned. So you just can't stick a sign in the ground and leave. So, we had that happen at Alvirne, somebody parked his truck there with signs on it at the presidential and so we had the police look up who it was. Called them up and said you gotta either be here or take it. You know, you have to man the signs. And if they're not manned we can remove them. Don't do anything with them, most people time the advice is take them and pile them up by a door some place so they can come and get them if they want but, you can't leave them up. I think, I think most of the parties know about that kind of stuff so we'll, we'll do that. We will need the people we have new people that we've trained during the primary. I think that will work out well and we're probably going to have to give some help to the Supervisors of the Checklist. We're going to have some people assigned to the absentees because with only the three, four people from the office and the Clerk and the Tax Collector who are helping us, that won't be enough for a 1,000 absentees so it will take them a lot longer. So some of my, if we have enough, hopefully we have enough people, we'll assign them to do that and they're going to have their own training session. We're going to be training some people again on the poll pads, especially on the Supervisors end of it because they're jobs are different in terms of registering people or doing a name change or an address change. We didn't have too many this time but, we will have registrations and more of those. Last two Presidential elections we had 70 and 73% turn out. I'm expecting at least that probably maybe even more for this one. So it'll be a very busy day but, it'll be in two locations, not one like we did in 2020. With COVID, masks, gloves and the whole bit. That was a bit of a mess. Everybody loved the fact that the Hudson Women's Club did the dinner for both locations, they did it for Alvirne this time, everybody said that was great and they really appreciated that instead of having two lunches. They did a good job with the write-ins at the end of the night, too. Like I said, there weren't that many. Hopefully, November we won't have that many write-ins there's enough choices there. And I'm planning to do a little public service announcement I think as soon as I can get that set. To talk about people wasting their vote. You get the Mickey Mouse's and I can't understand how people say they want to vote and then they throw the vote away by ridiculous names. It's really kind of disappointing that the public thinks that. They come out to vote but then they vote ridiculous names. I don't get it. So, but if anybody has any questions on how we plan. We're going to be planning again I'm going to need all your help. Two of you are on the ballot so you really can't be inside the rail. You could do you duty as a Selectman, which is required. Board of Selectmen, Selectmen members are required under the Constitution in New Hampshire to be, attend these elections. I have the ability to appoint those and those people that can't be. But there's always been complaints in the past that, they're on the ballot why are they greeting? Why are they giving directions? It's crazy. You do have the right to perform your duties. Just like I would if I was on the ballot. I have to perform the duties whether I'm running against somebody or not, doesn't make any difference. So, but I'll need all you support on this if we move forward and try and get ready for November 5th. Chairman Guessferd: I'll say, having been there, yes Selectman Morin did, got all kinds of accolades. He does a good job of getting people in and helping those that need assistance. So, if you need assistance you'll probably see him there. But beyond that, it was a very steady lowkey day for the most part. But obviously, I'm looking at the numbers, three to four times the number of people for the Presidential. And the question then becomes what else do you need if somebody wants to volunteer to help, how do they go about doing that? Paul Inderbitzen: Well we have quite a few now, we'll have to do some training. Everybody thinks well I can just come in and help. Well you can't do the poll pads. Chairman Guessferd: That's why I'm asking. Paul Inderbitzen: You can't do the Supervisors stuff unless you're trained. It's not a walk-in job you really need to. So the ones that have asked to be volunteers, we've had about 25 volunteers, we had about eight or nine party designees. They call them inspectors of elections, but basically they're ballot clerks is what they come down to. They work for the Moderator even though they've been designated by the parties and we're putting them into place. They've been doing the paper checklist which is a pain in the neck, we all know it, we just can't wait til they get rid of that. I had quite a few people trained because I didn't have much time before the primary. We trained a lot of them on the paper checklist and it worked well. Because that's going to have to happen again, too. I mean to come in at this point and say well, what can I do? I'm scheduling the meetings next week with the new people to set it up. We have had people come in, we actually had somebody who had experience as a Moderator up north. Looking forward to that person coming in. Have some experience at moderating. Chairman Guessferd: So at this point if you're going to try to help us out you're going to have to come out right away. I mean it's not like, you can't come out at the last minute. Paul Inderbitzen: Same thing with sick calls, I understand but, you know at the last minute you get, after you're sending all this stuff out and then say here's your position and then you get an email back that says oh, I'm not available. Could have let me know a little earlier. Chairman Guessferd: There's a lot to it and that's the thing. I think all of us have learned if we didn't already know, there's a lot to it, a lot of different things that have to be covered. It's rewarding work, as far as I'm concerned. Paul Inderbitzen: You have to have the dedication. Most of my workers really are dedicated to doing this, this is what they want to do. A few people have had to retire and because of either eye sight or different things and they're disappointed but, they really want to do it even though they're no longer able to. Anyway, everybody was doing well. The schools were helpful, they were very helpful. Especially Memorial, principal Bowen, well we know him, Mr. the school board rep but, I'll let the Superintendent know that they were very, very cooperative and helpful setting it up and getting stuff ready for them. Selectman Morin: With the OK of the Board I'd just like to thank you again for coming out of retirement and saving us. Paul Inderbitzen: Well let's hope by March someone, we find someone. How do you attract people? You know that it's kind of the same names, you know the Planning Board, the Zoning Board, you see the same groups of people that are interested. Other people either just don't have the time or don't want to take the time or they don't think it's that important. And yet it is. Because it's how we run, we're a citizen run community, state-wide even almost. I think when we come to budget time in a couple of weeks I've got some suggestions for the Board on what to do on terms of maybe trying to make it attractive. None of us does this for the money. I mean you guys don't probably either. It's a service, it's service and everybody should step up. But, I think I'm looking at ways of working with the new clerk who's really picked up very, very well and it's got ideas about creating a way of maybe doing it with a committee. Clerk, the Moderator, the Selectmen and a couple of the workers and say OK, you can do this part of it and divide up instead of having one person do it. The reason I did so much is because the Clerks, the Clerk Tax Collector was backed up with trying to get everything done. November 5th. End of October and the beginning of November, their office goes crazy. The end of the month and the beginning of the month, their office is just backed up. And now you're going to have all these people coming in for absentee ballots. It's a lot for the Town staff and they really put it all together. Chairman Guessferd: So if somebody's interested because as Selectman Morin said, you came of retirement to do this. We're going to need a candidate or two, a couple candidates for moderator in the spring. It's not too early to start thinking about it. If someone's out there and you know you're interested in the position, to find out more about, you know, what it is. What the duties are and you'll have somebody to help you kind of get your feet wet. Paul Inderbitzen: Working towards March I could work with somebody. The moderator has the ability to appoint a moderator pro-tem so that if he's not around that moderator can fit in. That might be an opportunity for a new moderator to say OK I'm going to appoint a pro-tem but we're going to work together and divide up some of the jobs, you might be able to do it that way. Chairman Guessferd: OK. Does anybody else have any comments, concerns, questions? Again, thank you very much for what you're doing and what you have done.

H. Request to Use Donation Funds – Police/Decision

Chairman recognizes Selectman Police Chief, Tad Dionne. Chief Dionne: Thank you. Good evening again. So, typically we try to refill our coffers for our, my guys call them swag. Bling. We give away a lot of, at community events we give away a lot of Hudson PD whether it's cups, or mugs, or beach balls, etc. Al Marcotte our Sergeant of Services put together what he wanted to do and we had a conversation about it. We're going to brand a little bit more some of our community stuff will have our patch on it as well. It will be given to the kids at places like National Night Out, Old Home Days, many of our community outreach the juvenile, our Youth Academy etc. So we're here tonight asking you permission to utilize donations from the Community Policing Donation Fund for the purchase of all this in the amount of \$4,727.75, this should last us a couple years, few years with all our events. And I'll take any questions anybody might have. Selectman Dumont: I'd just like to say I think it's a great, obviously, what you guys do and how you pass it out is great for community events. I think it's awesome for the kids to see that stuff and get involved. So if nobody else has anything else to say I'll make a motion. <u>Selectman Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to authorize Chief Dionne to withdraw \$4,727.75 from the Police Department Community Policing donation account (4556) to be used to purchase Hudson Police Department merchandise to be handed out at community events. Motion carried, 5-0.</u>

I. Tick Borne Illness Prevention Initiative – Fire/Decision

Chairman recognizes Fire Chief, Scott Tice. Chief Tice: Thank you Mr. Chairman and good evening everyone. I was approached by local resident, Sylvia Wilkinson, who has a very strong personal passion to protect people from tick borne illnesses and she has come forward asking for permission to post some educational materials and some small tools to help remove ticks incase somebody gets a tick bite. She's looking to post these at Town Hall and our rec areas that have kiosks so there's a place to put them. That would be like the boat launches at Robinson Pond and Ottarnic Pond, the Town Forest, Benson Park and conservation land on Pelham Road. I would also ask because we forgot, Musquash Pond also has a kiosk so I would ask to add that in as well. We have some (inaudible) I don't know if anybody wants to see it but it's a small, it's a small card with some information, there's some different sized pamphlets that would be posted as well as available for people to pick and take out. This comes from tickfreenh.org which is a non-profit that works with New Hampshire Health and Human Services to help raise awareness for tick, the dangers of tick borne illnesses. There's also a couple of scoops that are designed to help pull a tick off a person the proper way or tweezers to pull ticks off a person the appropriate way to try and make sure the entire tick is removed so the ability for it to continue to transmit disease to the person is eliminated. Selectman Morin: I just think she's done all this work we should at least have her come up so ... Chairman Guessferd: Come on up and be recognized. Alright, does anybody have any other questions? Selectman Roy: No I think it's great you volunteered to do this. Selectman Jakoby: I would just ask you to just tell us a little bit about your passion and why it's important. Sylvia Wilkinson: Oh, I wasn't expecting to cry tonight, OK. So ... Selectman Jakoby: I think it's important for people to hear the passion behind the project. Sylvia Wilkinson: So, I have chronic Lyme disease. I have a few other tick borne illnesses. Three years ago today I wouldn't be able to sit here. I had problems standing up, I had problems sitting down, I couldn't sleep. I went 11 days without sleeping one time and when I say without sleeping I mean not even an hour of sleeping. I've lost a lot of my memory I used to have a photographic memory when I was younger and right now things that used to take me an hour take about a day to do. I still don't sleep well, I get more than an hour, thank God, but it was a long pathway to go there. I had surgery on my heart last year because I have Lyme carditis, it's in my brain as well so I have neurological issues and some psychological issues as well that we're working through. But overall, that's just a glimpse over it. I'd say I'm one of the lucky ones. I've met a lot of people in this state alone who are far worse than me. I've met people that have to walk around with helmets and sunglasses on. They have seizures all the time, they response poorly to hot weather, to cold weather. I had glimpses of that, I had seudo-seizures which means I'm completely aware of my body convulsing outside of my control. I've also had issues with temperature regulation. My body has the opposite response, for the most part, to heat and to cold, it's very interesting. It's not what I'm used to but, the issue for me is not only that I'm going through this but, it's something that we can, I don't want to say easily prevent, but it's preventable. Learn how to identify where ticks can be. Learn how to identify what ticks are the bad ticks, how to take them off properly. How to protect yourselves from going outdoors for a long time. When I got diagnosed I was scared to go outside and I grew up outside. I was raised in Litchfield, you know in the early 90s. I went outside with no shoes on, I played outside in the woods. I've been bitten by every bug you can think of but I don't remember anybody 30-35 years ago talking about ticks and telling us to check ourselves for ticks. Nobody did that. So, after tonight's meeting, if I get your approval to post these resources, my next goal is to talk to the School Board to figure out how can we get this into the curriculum, how can we get it into health education for children? Because it's, you can make it fun for kids, too, you know? The thing kids need to know is what's a tick and what do I do if I find one. It's that simple. We don't need to scare them, I don't need to tell them that they're not going to sleep one day or that they're going to have problems in their life. But, they need to know it's serious. You know I want them to be scared enough as they are of bees, hornets' nest or something, that's the goal. You know these little resources they're fun, they're just something. It wasn't until I got really ill that I wasn't aware of how little there is in our

communities about this. It's staggering because New Hampshire is an epicenter for this. You know we're essentially ground zero, New England is ground zero for Lyme disease. Lyme Connecticut is not too far away, it's only a couple hour drive. New England consistently scores in the top 15 states affected by Lyme disease and other tick borne illnesses. So, it's not going away, it's only getting worse. So I feel like this is the bare minimum we can do. And it's just an awareness as well, I don't dive into the controversy about treatments and what, you can go into that. It's just to know be aware there are ticks out there, here's what you can do if you find one. And just know that, you know, your town is looking out for you. Some of these tweezers, too, they're kind of fun, they have a little light at the end. You can see the tick, it's pretty cool. And this Tick Free New Hampshire organization, they're great I've spoken with them a lot. They've developed things that can seamlessly integrate into curriculums in schools for kids. They have packets, they have all these great things. Their organization was started, this gentleman, a friend of his he worked with got really severe Lyme disease and he saw the effects that it had on him and his family. So he started this organization and they've been doing a great job. They even, throughout the state a lot of different communities work with them, not only for posting information like this in public areas, but, like I said, in the schools systems too to get the kids started early with understanding what are the implications around, alright, this tick, this bug bites not the same as this bug bite. I need to look for this vs. I need to look for that. So really that's my passion, I don't want anybody to be like me. They don't have to go through this, it sucks. You know? Chairman Guessferd: OK. Sylvia Wilkinson: It's a long healing process and if we can avoid it, even just one kid not having to go through it. Selectman Jakoby: I just really appreciate you sharing your story. I want you to know that I too, and my husband, both were diagnosed with Lyme over ten years ago. And at the time, Hudson was the highest tick, Lyme disease town back then. So I appreciate this on levels you can't comprehend as my sister-in-law also has chronic Lyme. It's seem like such a little thing but, we live in the woods here in Hudson. We have ticks all around us. They are hard to see, they're hard to know about and our children, we need to go out and play. We all need to go out into the forest. So, thank you from the bottom of my heart and from my family for you being here and expressing this and putting this forward. I think it's, it's long overdue. And I really appreciate your efforts and wanting to, I'll see you at the School Board when you come as well. I just want to thank you for that and share that with the public. You don't realize that you have, many people won't realize that they were bitten by a tick, we didn't know. We didn't know. And we didn't know that the symptoms that we were experiencing had to do with Lyme until, I don't know, six months after. Chairman Guessferd: That's typical. I've talked to a lot of people that have gotten Lyme disease and they have gone through all kinds of other diagnoses first. Sylvia Wilkinson: You name it, I've been told that I, I can't even tell you how many doctors, again not to dip into the controversy around this, but I can't tell you how many doctors looked me in the eye and told me it was in my head. I'm a registered nurse, I know what I'm talking about. I know what's wrong, I know what's right, I know my body. And they told me you're not experiencing this, your labs are normal, you're fine. Chairman Guessferd: Right, because it doesn't show up in regular lab work and things like that. Selectman Jakoby: It's a great step so thank you, I really appreciate you sharing your story. Chairman Guessferd: Yes, and reminder I think, from what I can see here there's no cost to the taxpayer, this is ... Sylvia Wilkinson: No, I'm donating everything I've purchased, all these materials. My idea is I will monitor them as well, because I live here, I'm a resident, I go to Benson Park a lot. I frequent the different sites, my thoughts for the Town Hall again, I would come in here periodically, I have plenty of these materials I plan to continue to use the materials and work with them. So, this is no cost to the Town whatsoever. Chairman Guessferd: Excellent, very good. OK, do we have any further questions? Do we have a motion? Selectman Jakoby, made a motion seconded by Selectman Dumont, to authorize Hudson resident, Sylvia Wilkinson, to post tick borne illness prevention materials at Benson Park, Town Hall, the boat launches at Otternic Pond and Robinson Pond, and the kiosks at the town forest on Kimball Hill Road & Musquash Road and at the Town conservation land on Pelham Road, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion carried, 5-0.

I. Revenues and Expenditures – Administration/Discussion

Chairman recognizes Acting Town Administrator, Jim Michaud. Jim Michaud: OK, so the Board has the Revenues and Expenditures handout through August 31, 2024. So, we're only two months into the year, the FY25. It doesn't anything major to report. All the expenditures are where they should be. We've done some encumbrances, solid waste contract, legal money, paving things. So on balance the expenditures look where they should be for the first two months of the year. Doesn't usually happen until we get to winter where things get a little more fuzzy, but right now looks pretty good. Motor vehicles continue to be strong, we're already ahead of last year by about \$43,000 at this point in time. That continues to be a pretty good performer. That's it. Chairman Guessferd: OK, does anybody have any questions? I think it looks pretty good so far.

11. Selectman Liaison Reports/Other Remarks

<u>Selectman Morin</u>: The only thing I have is the Adams Drive culvert project was completed in one day. Went and took a look at it today because it's all cured and everything, and everything is flowing fine and they're saying up to 100 years we won't have to worry about it again. And actually while they were there another culvert had come up. Somebody had actually approached them, it wasn't the Town I believe, to do the same thing. So, they're going to be looking at another project, I don't know where it is. They were talking about that with somebody else that approached them for another project to do the same thing. That's all I have tonight.

<u>Selectman Roy</u>: So, the Municipal Utility Committee met. Essentially they review where they are in the budget. They're over on a couple of lines but they anticipated that. I'm sure we'll see a transfer eventually come before us to transfer some money to the correct line items. And I attended the Benson Park Committee meeting. They're going forward with doing some of the work for the dog park to prevent erosion. They're having a problem with the erosion coming down from the top of the driveway down to the dog park and washing away. So they have some ideas to fix that and they're going forward with some work for that. They're still working on getting the lions back to Benson's. And a giraffe. Yes, a giraffe statue. So, hopefully those things will get back to where they belong in Benson Park. And that's all I have.

<u>Selectman Dumont</u>: I had back to back meetings on the 18th Library Trustees as well as NRPC. I will say as a comment to Mr. Crowley, at NRPC we also talked about Safe Streets for All, that's a regional comprehensive safety action plan. Me and a couple of the other members also spoke about the concerns here as well as the safety audit that happened on Dracut Road and we're advocating for some more help there, hopefully we'll see that. It's going to be a little bit more of a longer process when you're working through the regional plan. But, another avenue for that. I have Zoning Board, that's coming up on 9/26 as well as a new ZORC meeting that we touched on in the beginning. That got move to the 30th. I just wanted to say I was happy to see the turnout for the Nine Eleven Memorial, I thought it was fantastic and just wanted to thank everybody involved.

Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to start out by thanking Jim McIntosh for all of his years of service. He is retiring at the end of this month and he has taught me a great deal and has just been a great person to have at HCTV and to really build that program. So I just wanted to recognize him. I also wanted to comment on the Dracut Road DOT presentation last week. We do have a Highway Safety Committee meeting coming up on Wednesday and I do believe, if it's not on the agenda, it will be on the agenda there to also discuss what the DOT brought forward. So, if Mr. Crowley has any additional questions, he could give those to me or attend that meeting on Wednesday. The School Board did thank the Town and all the many people that were involved in the crosswalks, the lighted crosswalks that are now in front of Alvirne and the Library. So thank you to everyone involved and the School Board really appreciated everything that was done around that. At the School Board meeting they also started some discussions around the State of the Town meeting which is the meeting between the School Board and the BOS so I'm sure we'll take that up as well. So if the public has any input about that please let us know. I did also attend a Pelham Town Council meeting as they were considering a regional all peoples trail in Pelham, New Hampshire and it was interesting concept to talk about what an all peoples trail is. And I hope in the future that Hudson may consider looking at that and it really makes that accessible for all peoples, peoples of all abilities. It's a really neat concept so I look forward to hearing more about that. Because that was supported as a regional project as well. I have Budget next week and all kinds of things happening moving forward. So, thank you very much.

Chairman Guessferd: As far as I'm concerned we had a Sustainability meeting last night. Our new member Jay Keller I think is going to be a very valuable member of the committee. He's got a lot of knowledge and he does it basically for a living. So I think he's going to help out a lot with us. He's already volunteered for a couple subcommittee's so good stuff there. Transfer Station, just a reminder, we're going to add it to the website at some point here that additional passes can be purchased for \$30 apiece and you have to get those over at the DPW and right now they're only taking checks for those. They're not taking cash or credit cards yet. They see that in the future but right not that's what they're doing. As we get down toward the end of the year, if you need a pass or two, make sure you go over there during the working hours over there at the DPW and pick them up. It's not too early I suppose to be talking about holiday lights recycling. We did it for the first time last year. Kind of was a last minute thing and they collected over 250 pounds of lights. So, they've got the Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts helping them out. I think it's one of those things where they're going to try to get the word out earlier this year and again enlist the Scouts to help them collect right around that time and we're talking about disposing of trees and that sort of thing towards the end of the year. But again, just kind of putting that bug out there for now. We'll talk about roadside clean-up and again there's been a lot of collaboration between the Police Department and the Fire Department, DPW and Sustainability Committee and really putting together a solid program so that we don't have to get approval every single time that there's a roadside clean-up from the Selectboard, there a process in place that allows for that to happen. To make sure it's the right streets, it's the right time and that sort thing, the right support. The only other thing I want to mention is the CPCNH, Community Power of New Hampshire, is published their new rates. There's 63 members now and 20 more coming. And the rates are the lowest rates among utilities in this state. So, it's working in terms of savings for folks. So, just something to, I know it's kind of not been in the news lately so I just wanted to make sure people were aware, but things are moving forward there. As far as Planning Board, we have a meeting tomorrow night. We have one site application and we will be reviewing that. Finally, the Rec Department soccer is in full swing. There's 550 kids this season. Third year in a row they're offering a Special Olympics Rec sponsored unified team for anybody to join and the participant numbers for that, talking about all people it's been doubled over the last year or two since it started. So, there's a wide range of ages and so everybody can participate in soccer. Senior Center programming, there's 22 of our seniors that are on the road to Wildwood, New Jersey and they'll be back on Thursday. They had, it's a nice trip, the weather is good so far, supposedly they're having a good time. So we'll find out more, an after action report on that one. Basketball registration is up for all. Basketball leagues again, kind of early, right? It's open on the website for the kids, first grade up to over 35 years and older league. So, we have a, we have a vibrant 35 year and older league that is quite competitive as well from everything I've heard from people I know that are involved. As far as all that's concerned, that's the committee's reports for me. And you mentioned about responding to Mr. Crowley's questions, I think it's all going to be part of the process and it's not something that's lost on us. What the problems are over there and getting them taken care of to the best of our ability. Thank you for coming forward and mentioning that. Other than that, we do not have School Board so I will go right away first to the Chairman, I'll recognize Jim Michaud our Acting Town Administrator.

10. <u>Remarks by Acting Town Administrator</u>: So, just a couple of things, next Tuesday October 1st the Board of Selectmen have a Public Hearing in regards to Warrant Article #29 dealing with infrastructure, so that's at the Hills Memorial Library next Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Next regular Board of Selectmen meeting is October 8th followed subsequently by everyone's favorite time of year, budget time. First budget night is October 10th, you guys have a schedule with the remaining dates. Halloween is just around the corner and BOS action from October 8th, 1996. So the hours for Trick-or-Treating are 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on October 31st until a future Board changes it. So, I assume you're not going to change it so we can put it out there. I think we've got a communication with WMUR, what is our dates and times, so, October 31st it is. And that's it.

Chairman Guessferd: I do want to say one thing before we close the public session. I want to thank you publically, Jim, for filling in for the month of September. This will be your last meeting as Acting and I think we can all say that we really appreciate you stepping up and doing that. Jim Michaud: I appreciate that.

Selectman Jakoby: One other item because I know the Chief is here. I know this Saturday, it's this Saturday, right? This Saturday is the Fireman's Open House right at the Central Station and the time is from 10-2 p.m. on Saturday for people of all ages. It's supposed to be a really great event.

Chairman Guessferd: Excellent, I expect to see a lot of folks there. The street's going to be closed off there, right? Right out front here? Our School Board member is excused tonight. So, I will take a motion to enter into nonpublic.

- 11. <u>School Board Liaison Gary Gasdia</u>: Excused.
- 12. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Selectman Morin at 9:13 p.m., seconded by Selectman Dumont to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:2 (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining. RSA 91-A:3 II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee.

Nonpublic Session was entered at 9:13 p.m. thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public was asked to leave the room. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to exit the nonpublic session. Motion carried, 5-0. The Board entered into public session at 10:03 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session:

- 1. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to accept Production Coordinator, Mike Johnson's recommendation to hire Cameron MacDonald as a part-time HCTV Assistant at the rate of \$20.00 per hour up to 20 hours a week. Motion carried, 5-0.
- Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to accept Tax Collector, Christine Strout-Lizotte's, recommendation to hire Heather Celeste for the position of Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector at a rate of \$20.19 per hour (step 1) in accordance with the AFSCME Support Staff Union. Motion carried, 5-0.
- 3. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont, to move Fire Captain/AEMT Martin Conlon to Step 4 (\$99,320 annually) on the Fire Captain wage scale as outlined in Appendix B-2 of the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors Association Contract effective August 18, 2024. The employee will move to Step 5 upon the next anniversary date of their promotion, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion carried, 5-0.
- 4. Selectman Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to move Fire Captain/AEMT Dennis Haerinck to Step 4 (\$99,320 annually) on the Fire Captain wage scale as outlined in Appendix B-2 of the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors Association Contract effective August 18, 2024. The employee will move to Step 5 upon the next anniversary date of their promotion, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion carried, 5-0.
- 5. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont, to move Fire Captain Training Officer Kyle Levesque to Step 4 (\$103,292 annually) on the Fire Captain Paramedic wage scale as outlined in Appendix B-2 of the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors Association Contract effective August 18, 2024. The employee will move to Step 5 upon the next anniversary date of their promotion, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion carried, 5-0.
- 13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:08 p.m. by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Roy. Motion carried, 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Lorrie Weissgarber, Executive Assistant.

Bob Guessferd, Chairman

Dillon Dumont, Vice-Chairman

Kara Roy, Selectman

Heidi Jakoby, Selectman

Dave Morin, Selectman