

**From:** [William Cole](#)  
**To:** [Weissgarber, Lorrie](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Budget Committee Meeting (4 Sep '24): Invitation to Attend  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 3:45:15 PM

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Lorrie,

An additional item for posting and packets for the 4 Sep meeting.

Thanks - best regards,

Bill

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**From:** Guessferd, Robert <rguessferd@hudsonnh.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 2:29 PM  
**To:** Cole, William <bcfairway@msn.com>  
**Cc:** Lawrence, James <jlawrence8ie@gmail.com>; Jakoby, Heidi <hjakoby@hudsonnh.gov>; Jasper, Shawn <jasper827@myfairpoint.net>; Walsh, Kevin <KM\_Walsh@comcast.net>; kimrice44@gmail.com <kimrice44@gmail.com>; Brownrigg, Jr, Randall <mmbrousn@aol.com>; bob.wherry@rocketmail.com <bob.wherry@rocketmail.com>; Boucher, Donna <dboucher@hudsonnh.gov>; Weissgarber, Rich <budgetweiss@gmail.com>; gkenedy@sau81.org <gkenedy@sau81.org>; Malizia, Steve <smalizia@hudsonnh.gov>; Labrie, Lisa <lalabrie@hudsonnh.gov>; Michaud, Jim <jmichaud@hudsonnh.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Budget Committee Meeting (4 Sep '24): Invitation to Attend

*Chairman Cole and Budget Committee members:*

*Thank you for the invitation. The information supporting the Town Hall Assessment has been requested and provided to the budget committee by the Selectman Liaison. If any of that is unclear, I offer the following additional background information, some of which is redundant to what you have already been provided. The Select Board hosted a public hearing with respect to the proposal brought forth by the property owner to lease the land at the corner of Lowell Road and Central Street to the town for the purposes of building a new town hall on that property. The public opinion was not only a resounding no, but also a request for the town to do an assessment of the needs of the town regarding town hall going forward. The input we received indicated that the assessment should be done by an objective third party who could assess the towns needs impartially and completely. Based on this, The BoS decided that, if there was sufficient end of year funds available, we would contract to a third party to perform the assessment. An RFP was generated and Northpoint was selected from those who bid for this contract.*

*A citizen presented a petitioned warrant article, without any dollar amount assigned to it, to conduct a town hall assessment. The Select Board did not recommend this to the voters as there was already a plan in place to conduct a town hall assessment and there was no appropriation assigned to the warrant article. The voters followed suit and did not vote in favor of this warrant article. Subsequently, the assessment contract was awarded utilizing unexpended end of year funds and is underway as planned.*

*Please note that this cost is not part of the 2026 budget and will not be part of the upcoming budget deliberations, thus not within the purview of the Budget committee's scope for the 2026 budget. In addition, while there may be disagreement regarding how much taxpayer money is spent on a particular item, and/or how that money was spent, there is sufficient evidence to support how and why this expense was made - and that it was what we heard that the citizens of Hudson wanted based upon the input received from the public at the public hearing.*

*Having said that, since the question has been asked and answered previously, and the fact that the Select Board liaison will be in attendance at the next Budget Committee Meeting, I will respectfully decline the invitation to attend the meeting. Please let the Selectman Liaison know if there are any other questions and we will do our best to answer them; however, with respect to this particular question, I consider this matter closed as we prepare for the development and review of the 2026 budget.*

V/r;

Bob Guessferd  
Chairman, Hudson Board of Selectman

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**From:** William Cole <bcfairway@msn.com>

**Sent:** Friday, August 16, 2024 1:01:08 PM

**To:** Guessferd, Robert

**Cc:** Lawrence, James; Jakoby, Heidi; Jasper, Shawn; Walsh, Kevin; kimrice44@gmail.com; Brownrigg, Jr, Randall; bob.wherry@rocketmail.com; Boucher, Donna; Weissgarber, Rich; gkenedy@sau81.org; Malizia, Steve; Labrie, Lisa; Michaud, Jim

**Subject:** Budget Committee Meeting (4 Sep '24): Invitation to Attend

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Chairman Guessferd,

Reference attached, please note Item G (Reports), 1. (BOS Liaison), Town Hall Assessment (Contract Status).

As I am certain you are aware, members of the Budget Committee have voiced concern with regard to this expenditure.

That said, allow me to cordially invite you to the Budget Committee's 4 Sep '24 meeting.

Hopefully, you'll take this opportunity to clarify the Board of Selectmen's rationale, thinking and overall plan of action as related to this expenditure; and, any other items you may wish to address at that time.

Respectfully request your acknowledgement of the Committee's Invitation - either way.

Appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Best regards,

Bill Cole

Chairman,  
Hudson Municipal Budget Committee