

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of the February 14, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Jasper the meeting of February 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the BOS Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman Coutu.
3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Shawn Jasper, Roger Coutu, Rick Maddox, Ben Nadeau, Ted Luszey

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Shawn Murray, Fire Chief

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Anthony Martino - 17 Sunland Drive, Hudson, NH. I'm here to address number 7 on the Licenses and Permits and answer any questions that the Board might have.

Chairman Jasper asked how would the Board like to handle that. It is on the Consent Item. Let's give us a minute to pull that out of the agenda. Sir this is really your opportunity to speak to the Board. We can see here that you have applied for Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant License at Hudson True Value. Both the Chief of Police and the Zoning Administrator have recommended against the application. I don't know that the Board is going to have any questions until perhaps you speak.

Mr. Martino didn't know that they had voted against it and I'm not sure exactly why.

Selectman Coutu suggested that we proceed with the agenda. I will as a courtesy to him, Mr. Martino, remove item 7 so that we can discuss it separately.

Chairman Jasper said he will give Mr. Martino an opportunity to review that. We'll proceed on to this portion of the agenda and we'll call you back up at that time. Is there anyone else who would like to address the Board this evening? If not, we will move on to Nominations and Appointments.

5. NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

- A. Conservation Commission - (4 vacancies, 1 member term to expire 12/31/14; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/12; 1 alternate to expire 12/31/13; 1 alternate to expire 12/31/14)

Nancy Brucker – 26 Robin Drive. I've been a teacher for over 20 years. I have taught science and particularly microbiology of ponds, rivers, streams, wetlands. So I'm familiar with that environment. I know that part of the Conservation Commission's responsibility is to see that those are protected. I was looking for a committee to use my expertise and it seemed to me that the Conservation Commission was a good fit. It really is an interest of mine. I know that biodiversity is very important and so are some of these decisions about where we build and the kinds of activities that go on in these areas. You need a lot of thought, input, and study and so I'd like to be part of that.

Selectman Coutu thanked Nancy for applying for the position number one. One of the questions I was going to ask you was in light of the fact that your field of expertise relative to conservation, and I happened to notice that you had said that you had knowledge of wetlands and microbiology of ponds and rivers, so you've given us the detail and the background. Have you been following the Hudson Conservation Commission? Ms. Brucker indicated not in particular no. Selectman Coutu asked if she was aware of the work that's being done on our ponds, specifically Robinson Pond and Ottarnic Pond? Ms. Brucker said no. I just know that there has been concern about the water quality at Robinson and I don't know about Ottarnic.

Selectman Coutu asked Ms. Brucker if she had cable television. I was wondering why if you were interested you hadn't been following. Ms. Brucker is interested but to be perfectly honest and up until when I retired in June, I was very absorbed with teaching and not a lot of free time to devote. I belong to the Squam Lake Science Center up in Holderness and also the Squam Lakes Association. One summer I spent gathering water samples for looking at temperature and what kinds of things were affected at different levels of temperature in the water. There is a strong interest there.

Besides Squam Lake because Selectman Coutu is very familiar with that area, did you do some of those tributaries and those out ponds in that area? Ms. Brucker said she did not. I went out on the lake into different coves and took samples.

Selectman Maddox said she kind of answered my typical question of have you ever been to a Conservation meeting. So that answers that. Again, when you get into the land use boards, it's nice to see what you're getting into. If you haven't watched, the good thing is we're kind of giving them a new direction and I didn't know if that affected your decision to come in. We've looked to change their direction as far as conservation. But you don't know...Ms. Brucker said no I don't. I'm a quick study.

Based on what I saw here and heard, Selectman Luszey thought she'd be an excellent candidate given that we are shifting from more of an acquisition mode to managing what we currently have. We have a number of ponds, marshes and things like that along with forests that we need a lot of help understanding how to preserve. I think she would be an excellent asset to the team.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to waive our normal procedure and to appoint Nancy Brucker as a member of the Conservation Commission with a term to expire on 12/31/2014.

Selectman Maddox asked if this was one of those we couldn't change to April. Selectman Coutu said yes because it's a commission and not a committee. It's by Statute.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Brucker thanked the Board. Selectman Coutu thanked Ms. Brucker for applying. Selectman Luszey said that they'll see her on the second Monday of every month.

B. Nashua Regional Planning Commission - (1 vacancy, 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/2015)

Jeff Rider - 61 Barretts Hill Road, Hudson. Good evening. He's applying primarily to make sure that Hudson got their full representation on the Commission. There's been a vacancy for a while. I noted that no one else was really applying so I figured I'd apply. I have some background and previous experience on the Planning Board and ZBA. I thought that might be useful. I work with two other MPOs in different cities where I worked. I'm somewhat familiar with their duties and responsibilities.

Selectman Coutu asked to cut to the chase. We know Mr. Rider. We know his contribution to our community and I know firsthand as we all do that he doesn't just apply to be a member of Boards. He's an active participant and I think he would certainly represent the interest of this community on the Regional Planning Commission.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to waive our normal procedure and appoint Jeff Rider as an alternate to the Nashua Regional Planning Commission with a term to expire on 12/31/2015.

Chairman Jasper wanted to thank Mr. Rider very much for applying. We all appreciate it.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Jasper indicated that Consent Item 6. C. 6. has been pulled by the applicant. The event for the Kiwanis Club ice fishing tournament has been cancelled. That permit is not required. That was per the mean old Fire Chief in the back of the room. Per the previous discussion, the Chair will pull item C.7. Does anyone wish to remove any other item for separate consideration?

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to approve consent items A, B, C. 1-5, D and E, as noted or appropriate, carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Veteran Tax Credit - Map 148, Lot 063; Map 102, Lot 004, Sub 001; Map 205, Lot 002; Map 165, Lot 141, Sub 423; Map 216, Lot 014, Sub 097; Map 149, Lot 007, Sub 001; Map 145, Lot 012; Map 140, Lot 025, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) Disabled Exemption - Map 111, Lot 047, Sub 002, w/recommendation to approve
- 3) Tax Deferral Application - Map 145, Lot 011, Sub 022, w/recommendation to approve

- 4) Elderly Exemption - Map 158, Lot 001, Sub 010; Map 147, Lot 022; Sub 026, w/recommendation to approve
- 5) 2011 Tax Abatement - Map 204, Lot 6-604, w/recommendation to approve adjustment
- 6) 2011 Tax Abatement - Map 177, Lot 5-86, w/recommendation to approve adjustment
- 7) 2011 Tax Abatement - Map 157, Lot 2, w/recommendation to approve adjustment

B. Water/Sewer Items - NONE

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Raffle Permit by Hudson Dog Park
- 2) Raffle Permit by Hudson Historical Society
- 3) Request to Solicit Funds by American Legion Post 257
- 4) Request to Solicit Funds by Hudson Girl Scouts
- 5) License to Purchase Scrap Metals by Granite State Salvage Co., Inc.
- 6) Outdoor Gathering Permit - Kiwanis Club of Hudson, Inc. - Ice Fishing Tournament  
PER CHIEF MURRAY - FISHING TOURNAMENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED
- 7) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - Anthony Marino a/k/a Gabi's Smoke Shack

Chairman Jasper asked Mr. Martino to rejoin the Board at the table.

Going over the concerns with the Police Chief and the Fire Chief, Mr. Martino said when he spoke with the owner of the property I knew that there was someone there vending flowers on the weekend. My approach to her was that I would do it at lunch time only on Monday and Tuesday and that if there were any conflicts, the flower guy would basically have first right of refusal at that time if he needed those dates and times. I never considered vending in the evening as far as the dinnertime goes. It would only be Monday, Tuesday lunch time only.

Selectman Coutu told Tony I think what we have to consider here is that I believe the Police Chief and the Fire Chief based on limited conversations I had, we're very much concerned about the traffic at that corner. The bulk of the traffic other than going to work and coming home from work is usually during the lunch period. That's when there's a large flow of traffic. People coming up from the Litchfield side, the northern end, coming into Hannafords and that shopping plaza and there's a congestion of traffic. I would have to agree with them. Having a stationary lunch cart at that corner at that intersection with cars trying to pull in and pull out besides the business that the people are doing in the hardware store and the flower vendor, I think it's an accident waiting to happen.

Like Mr. Martino said...

Chairman Jasper asked the Board to suspend just for one minute because I want to correct something. I just blamed the Fire Chief for something. Now he's been blamed for something he's not responsible for. It's Zoning and not the Fire Chief. I wanted to focus on that its Zoning and Police.

Like Mr. Martino said, we wouldn't be there at the same time for one neither the flower vendor nor myself. He's needs the spot on a Monday and Tuesday, then I wouldn't be vending there. So there wouldn't be two people there vending at the same time. As far as the traffic goes, that's precisely why you would want to be at a corner like that is because there is more traffic than usual there. That's the draw. My concession trailer is a 20 foot self-contained trailer. It has an 8 foot open deck on the back where the smoker presides. It has refrigeration. It's basically a mobile kitchen as far as the State of New Hampshire is concerned. Again, that's the draw is because of the traffic pattern. I understand your concerns about people going in and out. I don't really know that it would create a hazard.

Before we wrap it up, Selectman Coutu wanted to say one more thing. Tony I don't know if you've watched Board of Selectmen's meetings but I'm going to be consistent in that I'm not going to vote to approve it and I'll tell you why. It's the same reasoning I gave the last time. For \$100 you can park a lunch cart and be open for business. I can understand having vehicles going from industry to industry because a lot of them don't have time. They have ½ an hour 45 minutes and some of them don't have cafeterias. I can understand mobile vendors going to each of those units and selling sandwiches and moving on. They're on the road. For me to set up a business and make it stationary and pay \$100 for a whole year versus a guy who invests in a restaurant, pays taxes, and contributes much to the tax base of our community, I find it very discouraging to allow people that just because if it happens here and then we're going to have 40-50 people more wanting to do the same thing, this is not a new request for us. We've had this requested of us before. We had these temporary mobile restaurants all over town. I just cannot support it.

Mr. Martino said you keep saying that it's stationary. It's there for 2 hours a day. Selectman Coutu said it's stationary for 2 hours. It's like a lunch operation opened...Chairman Jasper put the gavel down. We're running into debate and questions and answers are going to go through the Chairman. Does anyone else want to make a comment? I do have a comment but if anyone would like to comment first.

To follow along with Selectman Coutu, Selectman Luszey said he's going to be consistent. I'm going to vote for this because for a couple of reasons. One is I don't really follow the rationale of the Zoning and Police Chief with the traffic issue. There's

a hardware store there and if it was an issue, we would be doing something with that and there's a flower vendor there already. The whole purpose that you put business on roadways like that is because of the traffic count to the applicant's point. You want the volume of traffic. If we allow business to operate in business centers, then I think this fits in there. Like he said, he's only there - this is different than the one that was discussed previously where the guy was going to set up and stay there all day five days a week. He's only going to be there a couple of hours a day and only if the flower guy is not there. I don't see any change in traffic patterns significantly. That's why I would support this.

Chairman Jasper wanted to respond to that first. I think there is somewhat of a fundamental misunderstanding Selectman Luszey. While you and I voted in the minority, ultimately on the other issue that was in an industrial zone. These are commercial sites and the Planning Board has taken a very strong view about commercial activities occurring on commercial sites. The flower guy is grandfathered. That issue went to the Planning Board a number of years ago and that was grandfathered in. There was one other grandfathered activity on a commercial site in town. That was the Weir's Tree Farm selling at the Hannaford Plaza. You may recall this Christmas that Weir's Tree Farm did not sell in 2010. They didn't come back but another vendor wanted to come in there. Again, the ruling of the Zoning Administrator was that that grandfathering clause had gone away and that that would require site plan approval to have an additional commercial activity on a commercial site. That is what he is recommending here. The Zoning Administrator is not dealing with the traffic issue. He is dealing with the legal site plan issue. I think it would be a very dangerous and perhaps a situation where we would be pitting ourselves against another board and we'd be back Hudson v. Hudson. If we are to try to override our Planning Board and our Zoning Administrator...

Selectman Luszey stated given the flower guy is a pre-existing grandfathered activity, what you're telling me is along that whole strip if anything was to go in there it would require a new site plan study, etc.

Chairman Jasper's understanding, and Selectman Maddox can probably speak to the particulars a little better than I can, my understanding is that on these commercial sites where there are commercial activities, any new commercial activity will require site plan approval.

Selectman Maddox said that was primarily correct. It is a hardware store. It had a flower vendor by, again, 1980s or whenever that went into effect. This gentleman wanted to put a temporary restaurant which is what it really is on that hardware site, he'd have to have an allocation for parking; we'd have to look at the traffic. I think the traffic is an issue. If you're trying to take a left at that light, there are people that are pulling into the hardware store trying to get out of that hardware store and now they don't have a huge volume. Now you're going to exacerbate that problem with your facility being there on several days a week. Again, I think it would have to go through the process and look at the traffic on how we could mitigate some of that and I will say to be consistent, I'd go with Selectman Coutu. You don't want to have 50 of these all over town sprouting up on commercial sites starting that whole problem of the taxes versus a mobile site. I am going to vote in opposition also.

Selectman Nadeau had a couple of things. The first one is Anthony you know I've met you a few times before and that you definitely will have a very big following over there if you were to go there. It would definitely cause a traffic problem. The flower guy is there on the weekends and the traffic is a lot lighter on the weekends. He was there today Tuesday being Valentine's Day and the traffic was extremely heavy there all throughout the day because people were going in and out of there. On the weekends, the traffic flow is a lot lighter during the lunch hour and he's there usually mostly every weekend. I think it would be a traffic nightmare Mondays and Tuesdays there. Again, unfortunately I'll have to vote against this one but that's one of the reasons, the traffic is definitely going to be a problem over there.

Selectman Luszey said he was being educated because this is my first year on this Board. I apologize. If this is a Planning Board issue, then I would have to go along with their recommendation. I would not want us to be suing ourselves. I guess the only thing I would have to say to that, and I don't know what the process would be for the applicant, does he go through Planning to try to get zoning approval?

Chairman Jasper thought that's certainly the only other way to get a permit on this particular location. I would recommend that he talk to the Zoning Administrator about what other sites he might be able to locate on that would not require Planning Board approval. I've always been a little puzzled and it may have to do with the fact that the others are in the industrial zone and one of them was approved that is there for a set period of time in the industrial park. There must be a different set of regulations dealing with that versus this. That's something that he could explain to you. I don't think any of us are well versed enough in what the nuances are between the commercial and the industrial. Obviously there is...

Its Mr. Martino's understanding that according to the laws the way they are written is the only place a person can vend in a situation like mine is an industrial area, which the True Value is zoned industrial in the Planning office. It most certainly is. You need to check that.

Even if it is zoned, Chairman Jasper said it is a commercial activity with an approved site plan. There's industrial on the other side I think because we have that corner of Elm but I don't think...Selectman Maddox said it may be because I know that for a while those apartments/condos were a part of the industrial. I think maybe that was originally a long time ago that strip of Elm was - because it's over enough. Chairman Jasper indicated that this would be governed by the site plan which is approved on there.

Mr. Martino said he understood. If that's the case, then we need to change the maps that are in the office because they're wrong. Chairman Jasper said it's not a matter of changing the maps. It would be a matter of changing the zoning. If that was an industrial use on that site, then I think the answer would be different. True Value has been there for a long time. I can't speak to that but obviously the site plan has been or the site has been grandfathered in total, which may be the case too. If they've been there, although we've been doing site plans since Hector was a pup, that's not an issue that we can really deal with right now. The fact is we have a determination from our Zoning Administrator and that's what we have to go on. When it comes to the traffic, that's something that the Board would really have a little bit more leeway on. I do not believe that we have the leeway to overrule our Zoning Administrator and cause this kind of...

In his recommendation or not recommendation, Mr. Martino stated that it didn't say anything whether it's commercial or industrial. So I think that needs to be looked at by the Board. I know I had applied once before and had spoken with Bill. He kicked back my application because of the site that I wanted to go to was listed as a business site. He told me that it could only be done on an industrial site. When I did my research, that was an industrial site. Chairman Jasper said his determination "that it will need to have a site plan, Planning Board approval prior to Board of Selectmen approval". That is the rule of the Zoning Administrator. You need to be mindful of that.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to deny the Application for Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License submitted by Anthony Martino dated January 29, 2012, carried 5-0.

Just as a follow up, Selectman Luszey asked if we could ask the Administrator just to follow up to make sure that the zoning is...Selectman Maddox indicated it was written on his notes right here. Selectman Luszey stated that if it's not, we need to have it corrected. I know what it requires but we need to...Selectman Maddox said March 2013.

D. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the January 24, 2012 meeting

E. Calendar

02/15	5:00	Water Utility Committee - BOS Meeting Room
02/15	7:00	Council on Aging - Buxton CD Meeting Room
02/16	7:00	Benson Park Committee - BOS Meeting Room
02/16	7:30	Budget Committee - Buxton CD Meeting Room
02/20		TOWN HALL CLOSED - PRESIDENTS' DAY
02/21	7:00	Cable Utility Committee - BOS Meeting Room
02/22	7:00	Planning Board - Buxton CD Meeting Room
02/23	2:45	Trustees of Trust Fund - Buxton CD Meeting Room
02/23	7:30	Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room
02/27	6:00	Recycling Committee - BOS Meeting Room
02/28	7:00	Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on January 24, 2012

- 1) Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to hire Jonathan Schultz and Michael Tierney as Interns with the IT Department for 150 hours each at no cost as part of their internship, carried 4-0.
- 2) Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to hire Betty Holt as a temporary part-time employee in the Engineering Department effective February 1, 2012 for not more than 32 hours per week at a rate of \$19.85 per hour with no benefits, carried 4-0.
- 3) Chairman Jasper declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

B. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on February 7, 2012

- 1) Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to end the practice of retaining retired officers for outside detail purposes, carried 5-0.
- 2) Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to accept the offer of \$80,000 from James and Cheryl Courounis for the purchase of 47 Ferry Street, carried 4-1. Selectman Maddox in opposition.
- 3) Chairman Jasper declared the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

C. Combined Dispatch

Chairman Jasper recognized Selectman Maddox.

Selectman Maddox said he talked with the Chiefs, both Police and Fire, in regards to this. I think that they are a little gun shy to go gung ho because they haven't got full marching orders from the Board of Selectmen. I told them I think he's one of those governmental catch 22s. We are firmly behind it but we don't know what the price is so we're not ready to be firmly behind it. Again, I think he's looking for some guidance as to how they proceed. I would suggest Mr. Chairman that we defer this to the second meeting in March as that will answer that question whether the 5 of us are still here and firmly behind it.

Number two, Selectman Maddox said during that time, they get a list of long-term, long-lead item issues to bring before us at that meeting. If a radio tower has to be cited, and has to be approve, or whatever it may be if that takes 9 months, then we need to know what those items are. If there is a long lead time for a purchase of a piece of equipment, how much will the equipment be and that type of thing so that, again, we can apply the dollars.

The final thing Mr. Chairman is the money (Selectman Maddox). Hopefully by that meeting we will have an answer as to there's two present grants Chief in for monies to do this through homeland security. I think one is State and one is Federal. So we will hopefully have some answers as to whether what monies might be coming from that. We do have the Assistant Town Administrator's salary. Maybe at that point we'll have a better handle on where our contingency might be where there would be some money. Even if we don't do the whole dollar value, we can start, again, picking off those long lead time items. Again Mr. Chairman, there's no good answer to this because until we know a price and Chief come up and tell me I'm wrong, but we're talking right around \$225,000. Again trying to fit that within the monies we can get grants. We still have all next year because our goal is to have this operational for July 1 of 2013. By March, let's see where we are with the monies. We can probably project some dollars we can put towards if they tell us what the long lead time is.

The final item is, again, Selectman Maddox said to try to bring in IT if there are issues with IT that we need to have brought before us. I know the IT Director was at the last combined dispatch meeting. I've heard since there may be some issues that she's concerned about. If we can get her to put together what concerns she has so that, again, we're all getting the same information at the same time.

Selectman Luszey said we've talked about this a number of times. Do you actually have a plan that shows what it would look like and what it would take to implement? To me, these are questions that should already be answered. You should be able to pass it out and I should be able to read this at my leisure and kind of mull it over in my mind.

Selectman Maddox believed that the Deputy Fire Chief gave us a handout with all of the breakdown. Again, some of it is still in flux. As far as the repeaters, the...Selectman Luszey was talking about what it would take to implement and what it would look like when you're all done. Selectman Maddox said it would look like the Police Department's. Chairman Jasper said the physical set up in the building is done. Nothing would need to change physically in police dispatch. It's a matter of equipment to make it happen. To Selectmen Luszey, there should be a document that states we're here, we want to get here, and this is what we need to get there, and this is the steps we need to get through. All these questions that he just talked about would be answered and we would see those impact statements along with what it would cost to address each one of those items that would be impacted. IT might have concerns. If it's vetted out, you would know if IT has any concerns.

Selectman Coutu asked Selectman Maddox if he received a copy of a document that was provided or draw up by IT relative to the impact of costs, the phases, and how if the scenario if we did get grants and if we didn't get grants. Selectman Maddox indicated that yes there was a spreadsheet. Selectman Coutu said they got the 2 spreadsheets. I think to answer your question Selectman Luszey refers back to what Selectman Maddox originally said. We're prepared to do all of that. As Selectman Maddox may have had a private meeting with the Fire Chief and the Police Chief, I haven't heard from either one of them, they were gun shy about doing this. If that's what he's hearing, I think we need to give direction to the Police Chief and Fire Chief. My opinion is that we are very much interested in wanting to do this and we need for them to work hand in hand with Selectman Maddox and I in order to put the plan together. We have all of the particulars. It's going to be in phases. It's not going to be done over night as Selectman Maddox said. We've been looking to 2013 for full implementation. There's cross training that needs to be done. There's hardware that needs to be installed. We need to address the IT concerns and the spreadsheets that she gave us. We need to fine tune them. This new spreadsheet that we have is as a result of our last meeting when we set certain priorities. It needs to be done step by step and I think we can articulate that in a format that's easy to read and for you to be able to follow through. I think what Selectman Maddox is saying is that this Board needs to reaffirm our position that we want to see this and we need them to work hand in hand with us to develop this program as if it's going to be done. Then it will be up to the Board to put the final stamp of approval or rejection. Once we see the plan and its cost and how it affects personnel and all.

Selectman Luszey indicated Selectman Coutu said the key word, "the plan, we would approve it", and that would be their marching orders. Whether we're here or not, it would be something the next follow on board can say we still agree with that plan or we want to tweak it.

As Selectman Maddox started off, we're trying to do this in a cost effective manner inasmuch as it's not something that we have \$300,000 and we tell the Chiefs get this done. We're trying to make it work within the parameters of can we do some of it this year. I think what we need to do is now say develop one of different scenarios of getting all of the money through grants. Some of this year and having to fund the whole thing through the Town. Maybe that's that answer.

To Selectman Luszey it's not a money issue. It's a plan issue. You have this strategy you want to implement. All I'm asking for is to document it and it would have those figures in it. How we fund it may be a totally different conversation. Those costs should be known at this point. That's all I'm saying. Lay it out on the table and let's work it. Let's say yes that's the plan, let's go. Then we will help the Chiefs find the money for the different stages.

Chairman Jasper asked if that's what Selectman Maddox was looking to do - defer this to the next meeting and have all of those elements, this will cost this much and this will cost this much? Will we have that available? When we have seen part of that, Selectman Maddox thought they didn't want to commit the multitude of man hours to go through and come up with that until such time as we are further along with yes we're on board. Again, I think the Chief - and help me out if I'm wrong - didn't want to expend 120 man hours and then we're saying we're really not. I think he's looking for us to keep saying we're in favor of this and put the time into it.

Chief Murray said Selectman Maddox was correct. Certainly we're in the very early if you will exploratory stages. We are developing hard costs for things like the radio towers. We have to move a fire alarm enunciator or purchase a new one to bring up there. So we're actively pursuing those. The other major element here and I asked Selectman Maddox to come before the Board just to reaffirm what the Board is - we still have that element of we have a semi-official group of stake holders, dispatchers, the labor organizations that as we're pulling all of our information, we're getting ready to meet with them again to get their input. Then certainly our plan is once we have the hard costs, the estimates, the IT timeline - once we get the input from the stake holders group, then knowing the Board wants us to keep to going here we are going to develop that written plan and timeline and show you how we're going to progress forward. In the meantime, we're waiting to hear on two grants. As Selectman Maddox said one is a State of New Hampshire Homeland Security Grant and the other one is an Assistance to Firefighter's Grant which we're hoping we'll hear on the State grant before we do the federal one. That's a critical piece of this too because it's a grant for over \$200,000 which will essentially take care of the hardware infrastructure that we need to make the transition.

Chairman Jasper thought it was fair to say that this Board is on board with this project and the only thing that's going to likely change our mind would be prohibitive costs. I think we need to have those costs developed. We need to have a plan for funding them. Obviously the sooner that we get that done, the better we're going to be able to do that particularly as we look at where we are near the end of this fiscal year. If there are monies that we can say right now is a good time to take some of the monies if we have fund balance available to put some money in there, look at the grants, but that's going to be the only missing key I think is what does it cost. I think that's what we need you to do is to finalize those numbers and have that document in front of us unless I'm missing something here.

The only thing Selectman Luszey heard was if we don't get the grants, we might not do it. Selectman Maddox said we might not do it all at once. We might have to spread it over a longer term. Selectman Luszey's point is then if one of the conditions is the grants don't occur, then what is the contingency to keep going forward? Selectman Coutu said that's what they're working on.

Selectman Coutu said the reason for the spreadsheets that we received were the three scenarios completely without grants, with grants, or with what grant money. We have the different scenarios and we're going to have to develop different approaches relative to whatever occurs and we use the three different spreadsheets as the financial formula. There will be three financial formulas to achieve the final goal and that might affect the timeline as well. The timeline might move out a full year with zero monies. But comparatively when we were talking years ago, I wasn't on the Board, a million dollars to do this. We are now talking conceivable \$225,000 to \$300,000 to be able to do it. The grants would significantly impact the cost. We're going to approach it but they're gun shy. Selectman Maddox just wants the five of us to say we're not gun shy. Let's get the plan together. Let's look at the cost factors. Let's look at the various timelines and whatever plan makes sense, it's all going to depend obviously on which grants come through. We can almost say look if both grants come through, we're looking at a one-year timeline. We approve that. If only this grant comes through, then we'll make it a two year or no grants, we'll make it a three year. We'll follow this scenario that you've laid out with whatever modifications this Board wants to apply to make the whole thing work.

Essentially, Chairman Jasper thought we've all come to the conclusion that ultimately this makes the most sense for the Town of Hudson. The question is only how long will it take us to get there. The various elements go into place, that doesn't really affect anything in the short term in that when we're done, we're going to have two dispatch areas that will be capable of dispatching. We'll have a full backup albeit the Fire Department backup would be relatively small but in the event that there was some sort of calamity at the police station, we would have the ability to dispatch

both police and fire out of the Fire Department regardless of how cramped that might be for the short term. We could put these elements in place as we go along knowing that's where we're going end up. Do you have any questions or comments Chief?

Chief Murray said no. That about sums it up.

Chairman Jasper said that Chief Murray has the consensus of this Board and since we're all board regardless of the outcome of the election in March, that's not going to change.

Selectman Luszey said that plan is the document that will go forward with the new Board to help them continue that work.

Chairman Jasper asked Selectman Maddox what was the agenda you'd like this to come back up at again. Selectman Maddox said the second March meeting. Without objection, Chairman Jasper said this will be placed on the second March regular meeting agenda.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. October 2011 After Action Snow Report

Chairman Jasper recognized Fire Chief Shawn Murray.

Chief Murray thanked Chairman Jasper and members of the Board. Before I do that if I may, I can assure you it wasn't the Fire Chief that cancelled the Ice Fishing Derby. While I'd rather that you believe that before I fill the paper with Thumbs Down, I happened to go down to the beach and I did want to check the ice because it was coming up. There were Hudson Kiwanis organizers there and he actually approached me and said that they had gone and consulted with Fish and Game. They dug a couple ice holes and to their credit, they felt that because of the thickness of the ice, the just weren't comfortable enough with the amount of kids and everything that go out there. I do applaud them for taking that step. We did accommodate them by putting up the notice on the television and Lisa Nute put it on the website. Once again, I do applaud their concern for safety so that's how that all came about.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, Chief Murray is before the Board tonight to present to you the October 29, 2011 snow storm after action report. This document here basically brings us through the October storm. It's compiled for use by all interested public safety and emergency management organizations. It does serve the following important function. It's a source for documentation of response activities. It's identification of problems and successes during the emergency operations. It's an analysis of the effectiveness of the components of our emergency management plan. It describes and defines a plan of action for implementing improvements. I will note for the record that again on HCTV it is scrolling on the TV the Town's website where it will lead people. There is a copy of the After Action Report on there. There is a disclaimer of course pending final approval by the Board. If there is anyone listening tonight and they want to go there real quick, they'll be able to have the report in front of them. Once this is approved by the Board, we will again post electronic copies and some hard copies in our public places - the library, so it's available to the public. I will also be sending a copy of this to PSNH so that they can see what the Town of Hudson's view was as far as their response goes.

In addition, Chief Murray had some spreadsheets which are a little larger than the ones in the report for the Board so that you can look at that and follow along. Mr. Chairman if I can, I'd like to just quickly do the first paragraph of the introduction just to open it up and then I think we'd be better served by having the Board ask any questions you might have. On Saturday, October 29, 2011, the Town of Hudson, New Hampshire experienced a fast moving, high wind, and snow damaging October snow storm which equates as one of the most damaging weather related disasters in the Town's history. While local weather forecasts predicted rain changing to snow of up to 6 inches and above, starting in south on Saturday afternoon and wind gusts of up to 25 mph, what was not predicted was the affects the snow would have on trees that still held their fall foliage. The geographical size of the area receiving the precipitation was varied with forecasts predicting the major impacts to the Lakes Region and south. Unique to the storm in New England was this early season snow storm. Typically winter storms of significance in New Hampshire do not occur until well into November and December.

Two weeks previous to this October storm, Chief Murray indicated temperatures were recorded as record breaking as they climbed into the 80s for the Columbus Day weekend. From there was the start of the storm. Probably one of the most important pieces of information we got out of the storm was that the Town of Hudson and the Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire were actually at the center of some of the most damaging effects from this storm that came through. That was very important and what occurred as far as damage here in the Town. With that said Mr. Chairman, I'll open the floor to any questions and discussion that the Board would like to have.

Selectman Maddox thought they talked about it briefly. Page 9, first paragraph it says 91 percent of the Town of Hudson was without power. That equates to some 9,800 citizens without power. That's probably "customers"? Chief Murray said yes. It is PSNH customers. Selectman Maddox said that was the one thing that he saw as far as numbers. I think that anybody that really wanted to know how this all worked, this is an excellent document. Those of us that got to see more of it up close - the work that the Fire Department did, the amount of calls, the things that were put in place that actually worked that again, having it an all purpose emergency plan tends to benefit us inasmuch that you don't have one just for floods and one for fires and all that. This program worked very well. I think there's some things that you have on this document to take a look at as far as upgrades to it. I think that the overall plan as you read through this and look at what happened in what sequence, Murphy came to visit with the fire station generator and having probably lost power in the core center here for 10 hours in the last 10 years, Murphy came to visit. Again, all in all, with Mason Electric coming in and rewiring a generator that the Chief managed to get off of somebody; the command center that PSNH put in place Mr. Chairman; all these things just worked the way it was supposed to. For all those boring meetings we went to about emergency management, they pay off in these kinds of situations. Again, kudos to all the people that made this work and for the Chief in putting this all together to where we have something to present our citizens as they understand the magnitude. When your power is out, the only thing you're thinking about is your power. When you're looking at the numbers that are in this report, it is staggering to see, again, that 91 percent of the households and businesses were without power. The thing that saved this in my mind is the temperature came right back up. If it had been sub freezing temperatures, it would have been a whole new adventure, which at the end of this I would like to talk about. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Jasper wanted to make sure that in the report or in future copies that that is changed to "customers". Obviously people are going to look at that and go 9,800 people is not 91 percent of the population. Chief Murray said he can fix that first thing tomorrow.

For all those people who look around and go down Wason Road and you see all the trees cut down on the side of the road, Selectman Nadeau indicated that PSNH is finally learning their lesson and they're cleaning up the edges of their power lines. The picture on page 4 with Trigate Road, I was up there tonight. All those trees that you see there are all gone and are next to the lines. They really cleaned up a lot of that area of town. We learned from Stonewood last time during the last big storm that we had, which was '08 and '09. So PSNH is finally getting the trees cleared from the lines. I'm glad to see that they're doing something about it. They do look at these reports. It's good that they can see that.

One of the things that Selectman Coutu can talk about first-hand was one of the most devastating sites I saw were up at this end of town. Primarily behind the Robinson Road areas such as that. One of the things I was impressed with is I had an opportunity to visit the PSNH center, the emergency setup they had over at Wal-Mart and they had the trucks over at Sam's, and also had an opportunity to ride with the Chief and the Superintendent of Schools through pretty much most of this end of Town. One of the things that I was impressed with is that there were a lot of people out walking around the neighborhoods. They were having a difficult time traversing some of the roads because wires were still down. PSNH was out trying to get trees off of the wires because some of the poles were snapped in half. So they were trying to get the trees off the wires. What impressed me was how many people came up and felt so comforted that here was the Fire Chief riding around making sure that work was being done in neighborhoods and he was reassuring people that work was progressing slowly but steady and that he was on top of it. People were smiling and walking away thanking the Chief and thanked him for coming. I think it's important that our Emergency Management in situations such as this have visibility so people know that they are out there. The Superintendent of Schools that particular day we were making an assessment of whether or not we were going to open the schools. We still had the problem with generators and getting power across the street but everything fell into place within the next couple of days. We were able to work it through.

Selectman Coutu thought considering the impact of the storm, and Mr. Chairman you had devastation up in your neighborhood as well. Considering the nature of the storm and the timing of the storm, I'm impressed with how it was handled and how well it went. It's never soon enough but who would have ever thought that something of this magnitude would have occurred the weekend of Halloween no less. We fared well. I think everybody has learned a lot from this. PSNH as you pointed out Selectman Nadeau and you pointed out Selectman Maddox on top of it they've learned by some of their mistakes hopefully. There are a lot of things they could have done better. Hopefully other communities have put packets like this together, and they're going to review these, and they're going to have some sort of a regional meeting to go over things of this nature for the future. Some of the other things that we could still do in this Town to better alleviate some of the problems we might have had as Selectman Maddox alluded to had the temperatures been a lot more severe, we would have had much more serious problems than we had. We would have had life, safety and health issues that we would have had to deal with in some fashion. We weren't really prepared to do that. I think with this behind us now, it has taught us all a valuable lesson. I was impressed Chief. I want to thank you and your staff and certainly the Police Department and Highway Department. They were all out there day in and day out. There was no question about money or concern about money. It was let's get this done and let's keep working at it until it gets done and we got through it. Thank you Chief.

Chief Murray said he couldn't agree more. I think one of our strongest assets and part of the Town of Hudson is the departments working together. We have learned from past storms. Sometimes simple things like back with Hurricane Irene in August, we took 3 mobile radios and put them in Kevin Burns' truck as Superintendent, Jess Forrence, and his third guy. We gave them mobile radios which had the capability for them to monitor police and fire. They can talk to us too obvious if they want. We assigned them radio numbers. Just that one step carried forth to the October storm because the Supervisors at Highway could hear directly where we were responding to, where roads were blocked off, and literally within minutes of them hearing where we were and sometimes before our crews got to the road, Kevin's crews were there with chainsaws opening up the major roads. It's those types of things.

If Chief Murray could briefly - because he didn't want people to think that it's a picture perfect response - we learned from our responses. We have this time around compared to the 2008 storm, we have 20 action items that we're going to look at to try and improve our response. We're going to continue to review our response guidelines between Police and Highway. Sometimes not everyone calls the Fire Department but they'll call the Police Department and we end up duplicating resources going to calls. We're getting a handle on that but we need to do a little more work with it. We're developing written plans for maintenance and checking of the pump houses and sewer stations. It's not that they're not done now but we truly need to document it as a reminder during the storms that we're checking them. One of the things we learned is to keep our Town Hall and department notification listings updated. We're going to work with the elderly complexes to see if in the future they'd be interested - they all have a little community house most of them. I'd like to encourage them to put some sort of generator there as a small little meeting place until we determine how long the power outage is going to be and whether we need to relocate them.

From Selectman Maddox, Chief Murray indicated that we're going to work on developing a community emergency management information sheet with basic disaster information and contact numbers of our key departments. I am, again, meeting with Randy Bell on Thursday. We're going to discuss the generators and the school issues. I know Selectman Luszey has had some discussions with them over there too and they're willing to work with us to see a global look at how can the school contribute to help us with maybe opening a warming center or help us in those areas.

Hudson Community TV. Chief Murray said a couple of years ago we have that ability - I can do it right from my office - get onto cable television and put up messages. I think we need to train more people in how to do that. There are a number of points throughout the town where we can coordinate and get our information up quicker. In the report, the IT Division and Lisa Nute provided a report at what we have to look at for our IT infrastructure.

We had the ability to use the Hudson School District's emergency notification system. We just need to memorialize that and some procedures. They were more than willing to let us use the back call, which was very important to us also.

One of the final things Mr. Chairman, and Chief Murray didn't know whether it requires action of the Board or just a consensus, the social media out there plays a critical role in getting information out to the public. I'd like to establish some Town of Hudson accounts for Twitter and Facebook under an emergency management type window and working with the IT Director to offer up two more pieces of social media that people can go and look. If they're fortunate to have internet or cable, we can get information out that way too.

Selectman Nadeau was glad to see in here that we've now identified Hills Garrison School with a backup generator. I'm glad to hear that you're talking with the schools to try to work out a plan. One of the biggest complaints that I heard even though its only a day or two days that we don't have power and some of us 5, 6, 7, 8 days that didn't have power, they don't want to hear that they have to go to Nashua to the regional shelter. They said they didn't care if they stayed at one of the schools that had a backup generator. They just needed a place to go charge their cell phones, get a hot cup of coffee, and get a glass of juice or whatever they needed. I think it's something that we could probably come up with if we've identified Hills Garrison and one of the other schools that have a backup generator. All we have to do is put a sandwich board out on 102 that says "Hills Garrison is open for a warming shelter and these are the hours." Whether it be 9 to 9, 8 to 10, or whatever it is so that we could staff that accordingly. People don't want to hear that they have to go to Nashua South or Nashua North. I think the social media part is a very important thing because a lot of people do that now through their iPhones and whatever fancy gadgets they have. I think it's something the Police Department has a Facebook account now. When there's lost dogs, it pops up on there and they seem to have pretty good luck finding the lost dogs and lost cats. I think if we can get the shelter information out there - the Community Center has been good to us for many years. Without a backup generator there, identifying one of these schools as our new primary one I think that's great to get that out there. We should probably have two of them lined up just in case. I'm glad to see that we're working on that. That's very important to the residents that don't want to go to Nashua because they think we should do something here. We've been working on that since '08.

Chief Murray can tell the Board throughout the storm I was very much aware of the need if we need it to open a warming shelter. The Community Center lost power, so that went out. If you recall, you heard from the Library. They did have people walking in and using their cell phones there. I just want to make sure that during this storm we did not receive calls from anyone looking for a warming shelter. If we had, as a matter of fact, early on in the storm I spoke with Salvation Army over in Nashua and I had them on standby in case I needed to open a warming shelter. The unique thing about storms and disasters is the majority of people that are out there, they are going to seek out family and friends first because they don't want to stay in a shelter. It's usually the elderly that live alone. Those that are handicapped or ill and can't get mobile. Those are the most people that we focus on and had to deal with. I think that out of all the total population, we transported 3 people over to the regional shelter. Certainly the storm showed us that we need to geographically set up alternate warming centers just in case there is that need.

Selectman Maddox had a couple of things. Again, I think this is a great list. Number 11, I think as part of the whole combined dispatch maybe we put that into there. Again, I think that whether the 5 of us may not get it but Twitter, Nextel, and all of these others and be able to get that out to their cells phones, to be able to communicate what's happening is tremendous. If one person has that and they tell 3 of their neighbors, we're getting the information out. As good as it is to put it on our cable and our website, if you don't have power it isn't doing you much good. I heard many a person sat in their cars so that they could charge their cell phone so they had communication. I think those types of social media sites that will direct information to people is something we definitely need to look at as well as at least getting a price to have a generator hookup to the Community Center. Even if we don't put in a generator permanently, having it set up so that it's a socket to be able to make it happen quickly with a transfer switch I think is a good expenditure of money Mr. Chairman. You are right. We don't need to have a full blown overnight stay setup but to be able to have some place in town because to tell people that they're going to go to Nashua North, we might as well tell them they're going to Mars. Again without traffic lights and all of the things that were going on, it made it a challenge for people to get around. I think anything we can do in town would be better served.

The other thing Selectman Maddox talked about Mr. Chairman is once we got to 40 percent of the Town was going to be out for more than 2 days and they're going to set up some sort of PSNH command center, it is in our program to assign someone there as a liaison to the Town of Hudson. I know the Chief took many a phone calls but if we put a presence there, if there was the Training Captain - that was my thought at that PSNH center. Even if it's not in Hudson if it was in Nashua or wherever, we're getting first hand information that could be transmitted to those Twitter accounts. They are working on Greeley Street for the next 12 hours. They're working on the Tree Streets tomorrow. Whatever it may be so that the information is transmitted to our citizens. Again, that was the question that most people asked was what's going on. They just couldn't find out fast enough. Again we're a country of wanting to have it right now. The more things we can provide to our citizens so they can make intelligent decisions. Are they going to get to Old Derry Road tomorrow or 3 more days might decide whether you're going to solicit family in Massachusetts that may have power. There's a lot of good things on here Mr. Chairman. I think we need to take a look at learning from our mistakes and strengthening what we did this time and moving it forward. Again, the Chief needs to get some prices on some of these things. I know you have a February 29<sup>th</sup> deadline on a number of them. I know Gary Webster is working on the phone lines went down at Pennichuck. They didn't know that the generators were running but the pumps weren't. That affects our fire protection, water pressures and all of that. Again, Mr. Webster is looking into finding a method that would give us a backup back to that centralized combined dispatch center. If we can take a look at some of those items Sir.

Chief Murray said a couple of years ago Steve was at the Marsh Road water tank. We put the generator on. Mr. Malizia said after 2008. Chief Murray said the timing was impeccable on that with this storm because we were able to maintain that water pressure and fire protection. Those are all the things we're looking to try and be proactive with.

Chairman Jasper said a couple of years ago Deputy Buxton came in and there was some sort of an alert system or something through the telephones. We were going to go back and look at how that was progressing. I think we looked at it once and I don't think we've heard any more about that. What's going on with that? Was that technology helpful? Is that something we should be moving away from and going to Facebook and Twitter? I don't recall the particulars of it but that was...Chief Murray said its very much like Twitter and Facebook. That is the Nixle system. You gave us permission to go ahead and sign up for it. We did. We have the program but we just haven't set up the core part of it to begin using it. That's certainly we're going to focus also with Twitter and Facebook. It is a system that we have access to now. We set up an account for the Town. Chairman Jasper said it wasn't used during the storm then? Chief Murray said no.

Selectman Maddox said the citizen has to sign up to get them. So you'd have to know in advance be on our mailing list if you might. Chairman Jasper said obviously if we haven't done it...Selectman Luszey said to send it out with the tax bill.

*Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to accept the October 2011 Snow Storm After Action Report as presented by Fire Chief Shawn Murray with the one small correction.*

Selectman Maddox asked if there would be a subsequent meeting in March after the February 29<sup>th</sup> as a number of estimated completion dates to come back an update us on those. Chairman Jasper said if that's the pleasure of the Board, we can certainly do that. Again, Selectman Maddox said if we went to April it wouldn't bother me. There's some great things on here and I just don't want them to get lost. Chief Murray asked for the April meeting.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Murray apologized. Selectman Coutu just reminded the Chief and Chief Murray asked for the Board's indulgence on one important thing. We received notification that Hudson will be awarded a New Hampshire Heart Safe Community Award this Friday. I've asked Selectman Coutu to join me up at the Governor's office. This Heart Safe Community Award is because of our efforts in partnership with the School District and local businesses in putting AEDs in all our school/town facilities and promoting it through the businesses. They have a couple of signs to put at all the entrances to the community saying we're a heart safe community and I think it's a pretty good honor for the Town. Selectman Coutu will be joining me to accept it for the Town.

The Board congratulated Chief Murray.

B. Budget to Actuals

Chairman Jasper recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

In front of you, Mr. Malizia indicated the Board has the budget to actuals through January 31<sup>st</sup>, which is 7 months through the year - about 60 percent. Again, the key area that I look at here is the legal. As you are all well aware as I've repeatedly stated, collective bargaining issues have caused our legal budget to be over expended this year. At this point in time, I don't believe we're actively negotiating a contract. So that should mitigate some of that. On the other hand, we've had some other issues that we've had to deal with. Again as I've said, the positive side is our general legal has been pretty stable, pretty low. So we're really controlling that. I anticipate coming forward probably in the next month or two with a request to move money from contingency to cover it. We haven't dipped into the contingency at this point in time. I think we'll be able to cover it with that.

Other than that generally speaking on our expenditure side, Mr. Malizia said we're doing reasonably well. The FEMA grant is not in here yet. We should get that pretty soon. That will help some of the highway where we spent money for that back in the storm we just talked about. Again as we've stated, we've encumbered the whole trash contract. So it tends to throw the numbers off a little bit if you looked at it from a pure 7/12<sup>th</sup> of the year done. In general, the Town is in pretty reasonable shape. Again, just continue to watch legal. I don't know if there are any other big highlights in here. Again, looking at for example the Town Poor, we're doing very well there. We have not exceeded that budget. That's running low. There may be some money there we could transfer possibly. Again as we get closer to the end of the year, we'll identify some other areas. Maybe there will be some money left.

Revenue side, auto registrations, Mr. Malizia indicated we continue to track that. We're doing a little bit better than last year - about 56 percent collected. Again, it's not linear. You can see we should be about 58 percent or about 56. Interest is pretty non-existent but that is somewhat mitigated by ambulance revenues which are doing pretty well. This is one month lag, so there's missing a month in this year. Again, the ambulance revenue has been fairly consistent and strong for us. It looks like we haven't expended too much overlay. That's using the abatement money and stuff. That's pretty reasonable. So continue to look at car registrations because interest is really a nonfactor. We can track it but we're not making any. I'll continue to keep an eye out but we're not going to see anything there.

On the overlay, Selectman Coutu said it's fairly healthy. Do we foresee any...Mr. Malizia said you can never tell because folks have the right to file for abatements and what not. In general, our experiences we probably should end up with the majority of that money still in the account given where we are in the year. As you recall last year, we finished strong and I believe we used the money or we were able to cover some of our other shortfalls with that overlay if you recall. Again given that we're 7 months through the year, we're in reasonable shape with that right now.

Selectman Coutu asked for the page number on the ambulance/medical call. Mr. Malizia indicated it was on page 6. It's almost 58 percent if you round up. That's one month. That's a month short. Selectman Coutu said that's a month short and we're ahead. We're doing very well there. Mr. Malizia said that's reasonable there. That's not any issue for concern. We should definitely hit that target and probably go over it.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Luszey - Thank you Mr. Chairman. We'll start with the Conservation Commission. I met with them last night. We went over the new goals and objectives. Received I would say warmly. I think we're going to do okay with it changing our focus more towards managing what we have and getting things lined up. There were a couple action items that I came away with. One is the Ingersoll Rand property. There was a report due to the State. I saw Mark Pearson just before he left today. That report hasn't been filed but he said he sent everything to you. I need to find that report because the Chairman thinks he gave everything to Mark. I reviewed the stuff and it's not there. I'm going to need some help around here to get that to them.

It's basically a statement of condition of walking through the property even though what's changed, and what hasn't changed, and all that. So we'll make sure we follow up on that.

The other question that came up, Selectman Luszey said there was an Eagle Scout project done down on Musquash area. We had a conversation about the naming of the trail. What wasn't clear for me is whether that had to come here for approval or if the Commission just approved it. The gentleman that's doing the project needs approval prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>. I'm wondering what the process is.

Chairman Jasper can tell Selectman Luszey that if we handle it the same way as we do Benson Park, it came here. The Eagle Scout projects when they're completed have come here for final acceptance as well.

Selectman Maddox believed that it also had to go to the Fire Department and make sure that it didn't conflict with the 9/11. Chairman Jasper said right in terms of the names so that if somebody said I'm on...Selectman Luszey indicated it was Blue Dot Trail. Chairman Jasper said we did send all the names...Selectman Luszey said he'd get back to them saying we'll check with the Fire Chief and make sure there's no conflict there and then have them scheduled here the 28<sup>th</sup>, which I won't be here by the way. I'll be visiting Uncle Mickey.

Selectman Luszey indicated that they also selected a new Chair and Vice Chair. Jim Battis is the new Chairman. Patricia Dubai is the new Vice-Chairman. I think that's pretty much it. We have some work to do with the prime wetlands overlay. I'll be working with Gary and Jim on that. Other than that, I think we're off to a good start.

Selectman Coutu had a comment. I watched what was usually a boring meeting. This was one of the most productive if not the most productive meetings that that Commission has ever held. I was very impressed. I walked away from there saying now that's working. Those are people working. The questions were very intelligent, apropos, and you met your match. He was sitting next to you. She's on top of everything. They were very sincere and he made tremendous headway. I was very proud of the way the Commission conducted itself last night. That was one of the most informative and hard working meetings I've ever seen that board hold. Good job.

Selectman Luszey thought we're going to start being on a roll. Selectman Coutu said when Selectman Luszey said it was a positive meeting, that's all I saw come out of that. There was no acrimony. Everybody got along well. Everybody was receptive to the idea that we set the parameters for them. I think they look at it as a positive from the Board in that now they have their work cut out for them, preserving what we have, and maintaining what we have is a good objective. Now this master plan kind of takes a back seat now to this. I think they're really looking forward to accomplishing that objective for us. Selectman Luszey thought so.

A few meetings back, Selectman Luszey requested this Board to allow him to talk with department heads about doing some relay out work if you will of the facilities here to address some issues that I saw particularly with some of the IT folks being in closets. I spoke with Chairman Jasper about it. One of my concerns is where one of the people is located if I were to pull the OSHA's standard on it, we might be in violation of confined space issues. If you take a look at that area, it's not a real good area for what I would call being conducive to being highly productive. I asked the department heads to sit down and talk about what we could do to change things around to get people out of those confined spaces. We have a number of layouts I guess I would call it or proposals that we're thinking about. We're going to meet again in March and we'll make sure that the one department head that wasn't able to make it is there to continue to work. I'm thinking probably in the April time frame we'll come back here and talk to the Board about some possible shifting of office areas.

During that meeting, Selectman Luszey only had only 2 very simple requests turned into a pretty extensive list of concerns. One of them is heating and cooling issues in this building. Another one, and Steve help me if I may have not taken the note correctly, and issue with freezing pipes over the Planning room. Mr. Malizia said several years ago, probably 5 or 6, we had a pipe burst on New Year's Eve. Selectman Luszey said they move tiles when it gets real cold to make sure we have heating up there. That's what was described to me. Mr. Malizia said he missed that part of the meeting because I was late. The majority of the issue had been resolved. I think on occasion when you get really, really cold, sometimes there are drafts that come in that just to be safe, they've moved some tiles just to make sure the heat gets up there. Selectman Luszey said they still move tiles when it gets real cold to make sure enough heat gets up there to keep the pipes from freezing. In this exercise, I will try to capture and validate all of those types of issues and bring it back here. Real estate is expensive to replace.

The last thing is the budget deliberative session. Selectman Luszey thought it went fairly well given what was on the agenda. After the deliberative session, the Budget Committee had a Budget Committee meeting to reaffirm all of the votes. At that meeting, I did ask to have put on the agenda the bucket truck that Kevin brought forward and to see if they would support the purchase of that truck as Kevin described. They voted unanimously to say yes it was an excellent thing to do. Do we need a motion?

Chairman Jasper said what we would need to do is first of all waive our competitive bidding process to allow the purchase of the specific truck from the specific vendor at the specific amount. Selectman Luszey didn't have the vendor name, I just have the amount number. Chairman Jasper would like to have it. Mr. Malizia said we can insert it in the minutes. Selectman Luszey indicated that we're going to have nonpublic. During the slight break, I could call Kevin and get the vendor's name and I would make the motion. Chairman Jasper said he should have been clearer on that but when I talked

to you today and said make sure you have all that. Selectman Luszey said he called and made sure he had the number correct. Chairman Jasper would like the specific of the vendor name and the truck. I know it's on an Navistar chassis, but I think we probably ought to have the specifics on that. To that end, we can insert that afterwards.

*Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to waive the competitive bidding process and to authorize the purchase of a 50 foot bucket truck on a Navistar chassis not to exceed \$90,000.*

Selectman Maddox said we went through an exercise at deliberative. I think that it's important to tell people that we have been trying to replace the Fire Department bucket truck for a good number of years. It has always been, again, a cost factor, trying to make it work for both sides. Mr. Burns in his usual think outside the box mentality found a vehicle that was a demo that more than met his needs to be able to trim trees after these storms and all that, putting up lights, and all the things that he's renting a truck for now as well as meet the needs of the Fire Department. So we're getting a truck that has 8,000 miles on it at a very good price that will meet the needs of both the Highway and the Fire Department. That's why we're looking to waive the competitive bid because Mr. Burns went out and found a vehicle that did all the things we wanted it to do and showed us that the price was, in fact, more than competitive. We're utilizing the monies that we receive from FEMA for the rental of our equipment during that storm. I think it's important Mr. Chairman that we're explaining how we're doing this and not simply buying a vehicle. I just wanted to put that in the minutes Sir.

Chairman Jasper thought that was important as well. It's also important to note that this really is a replacement vehicle for the Highway Department. While at the present time that vehicle may remain in the fleet because it has virtually no value, the chassis is a 1970 chassis, so that has no real value and the bucket itself is extremely old as well. It also has no value as long as it's in service. Selectman Luszey said that question actually came up during the presentation of the budget. What Kevin reiterated is we'll keep the current bucket truck in service as long as it's not costing us real dollars to stay. Once it dies, it will go out as scrap. Just to add on to Selectman Maddox's statement, this truck will also service the lights in the schools parking lots. It's truly town-wide. It's a good deal. Chairman Jasper said as long as the School Board doesn't think that's a sophomoric policy.

*Vote: Motion carried 5-0*

Selectman Nadeau - You might not believe this tonight, but I don't have anything this evening.

Selectman Coutu - I have only but one thing. I want to thank all of the candidates. You and Selectman Nadeau especially for accepting an invitation to do a televised debate Saturday morning. All 6 candidates have agreed to be there. Anyone wishing to come and watch it are welcome to come. They're going to set up some seats if anybody wants to come. I've had a couple of requests. I said I didn't know if we could do it and I spoke to Mr. O'Keefe and he said he'd be more than willing to accommodate a few people if they wanted to come and watch it. It will not be live. It will be taped so that we can brush Selectmen Jasper and Nadeau's faces so they look good on camera. I believe he's going to start running it right away on Monday. Again, I wanted to remind everybody that the Junior Woman's Club will be holding their candidates night, which will be a week from Thursday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February. That is open to the public and that is live and rebroadcast. It gives the citizens who attend an opportunity to ask any question they may have on their minds to any of the candidates as well as I believe they have call in questions they will field from people. With that Mr. Chairman, thank you.

Selectman Maddox - Just an update from the Planning Board. They took our information as far as the CIP and they're going to mull that over. The other thing is the Master Plan. We're having a discussion about that. As a requirement of again collecting monies, we have to have a Master Plan but we're discussing how we would do that and the funding thereof. So just to keep you updated, the Planning Board is looking at that. It's still a couple of years out. They're now becoming very expensive. These things are \$100,000 plus documents. This is Hudson. We're going to try to look and see if there's other things we can do. Not much has changed. It's just the census data from 2000 to 2010. My thought was hire an intern for the summer and they can go and research all those numbers. It would be a lot cheaper than sending it out to a company to have them make a nice 8 X 10 glossy. Trying to be Hudson and trying to be as frugal as possible. The Planning Board is looking at those items.

Selectman Maddox indicated the other thing is the Planning Board is actually doing some planning Mr. Chairman. I know that's pretty scary. Most times we react at the Planning Board but because of the lull in construction projects coming forward. I think the winter months are kind of throwing people off. We keep on thinking its spring but it is actually February. They've looked at a number of Ordinances, looking at some potential future things that we want to take a look at. They're actually looking at Planning. Again it was just a nice change of pace.

The other thing quickly Mr. Chairman, Selectman Maddox said Saturday was the Deliberative Session. I want to say that you did most of the talking, thank you. You did a great job of representing - we didn't all need to get up and say the same thing. Democracy isn't pretty. I think that again citizens came in with some interesting ideas. I think maybe some of them we may want to take a look at. I think reminding our employees of what the policies are. I know that the IT Department is working with the software that they got. Maybe that's something that we implement in there to remind people of what the purchasing policy is. To send it out for bid for anything over \$250, again, where would that money come from to do it? I think it was an interesting exercise. In my years as a Selectman, it was interesting to see the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen - I thought we were going to break out into kumbaya at any moment. I mean when you're looking at

votes of 5 to 0 with the Selectmen and 10 to 0 for the Budget Committee, something is going right. It was a pleasure to see democracy and hope people get to see the candidates' night. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Jasper - I really had nothing but I was just going to sort of tag onto what you were saying. I applaud people who get involved and have proposals but they need to be open enough to talk to us and to find out what's really going on. I think what we saw with the petitioned warrant articles was just a presumption. I'd never seen the gentleman who presented those petitions before in my life. We have public hearings. We have public input. We have our phone numbers in the phone book. We have our e-mails out there. People are so willing just to make assumptions and very few seem to be willing to contact us and say I heard this, or how do you handle this? It would be much more productive for everyone. The last thing I want to do is discourage people from taking part in getting involved. At the same time, people have to be responsible about how they do that and the assumptions that they make when they go forward. That's really all I have.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to enter into Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee; (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant; and (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with any body or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Nonpublic Session is being entered at 8:42 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda.

The public is asked to leave the room.

Open session is being entered at 9:10 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to hire Kristofor Georgeou as the part-time HCTV Production Assistant at a rate of \$11.00 per hour for up to 20 hours per month, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to approve the Order to Repair or Remove Hazardous Building located at 60 Greeley Street, carried 5-0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:12 p.m. by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HGTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Shawn Jasper, Chairman

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Roger E. Coutu, Vice Chairman

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Richard J. Maddox, Selectman

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Benjamin Nadeau, Selectman

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Ted Luszey, Selectman