Town of Hudson

Board of Selectmen who, by vote, prefer to be referred to as the Select Board

Minutes – April 5, 2021

Remote via Zoom 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order:

Present were Mr. Moses, Mr. Durant, Mr. Duplisea, Mr. Lucy, Mr. Parent and Mr. Quinn. Also present were Ms. Vickery and Atty. Cipriano.

2. Minutes to be Approved:

a) Public session minutes – March 22, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Parent, seconded by Mr. Lucy, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the Public session minutes – March 22, 2021.

b) Executive session minutes – March 22, 2021 (1 of 2).

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the executive session minutes – March 22, 2021 (1 of 2).

c) Executive session minutes – March 22, 2021 (2 of 2).

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Parent, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the executive session minutes – March 22, 2021 (2 of 2).

3. Meetings and Public Hearings - 7:00 PM:

a) Selectmen to meet with Rep. Hogan and Sen. Eldridge make a presentation regarding the FY 22 Budget.

Senator Eldridge began by congratulate the Town on continuing to secure state grants. He stated that there is an increase in state revenues as compared to last year of approximately a billion dollars and there will also be money from the American Rescue Plan from the federal government due to the pandemic. He believes it will be a solid budget. The Senate will take up its budget in May after the House. He congratulated Mr. Durant on his four decades of public service, he also thanked Mr. Parent.

Representative Hogan thanked Mr. Durant, Mr. Parent and Mr. Moses for their service to Hudson. She explained that one of her main focuses is recovery from the pandemic. The budget from the Governor is $45.6 billion.

b) Selectmen to vote to adjust and reduce the quorum requirement for Town Meeting scheduled for May 1, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Durant, seconded by Mr. Quinn, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to reduce the quorum for the May 2021 Town Meeting to 70 registered voters. The Town Moderator agreed.

4. Licenses:

a) Selectmen to consider issuing a common victualler's license to Rose Santos of Good Earth Holistic Kitchen located at 43 Broad Street, hours of operation 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Quinn, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to issue a common victualler's license to Rose Santos of Good Earth Holistic Kitchen located at 43 Broad Street, hours of operation 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

5. Personnel:

a) Selectmen to consider reappointing David Baran to the Board of Registrars for a term to expire on March 31, 2024.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Quinn, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to reappoint David Baran to the Board of Registrars for a term to expire on March 31, 2024.

b) Selectmen to note the resignation of James Klotz as full-time bus driver for the Council on Aging, effective April 30, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to note the resignation of James Klotz as full-time bus driver for the Council on Aging, effective April 30, 2021.

c) Selectmen to note the resignation of Kyle Andrade as Maintenance Laborer for the DPW, effective April 2, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to note the resignation of Kyle Andrade as Maintenance Laborer for the DPW, effective April 2, 2021.

d) Selectmen to note the resignation of Heather Shaughnessy as Communications Dispatcher for the Police Department, effective April 5, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to note the resignation of Heather Shaughnessy as Communications Dispatcher for the Police Department, effective April 5, 2021.

6. Contracts:

a) Selectmen to consider approving and signing a contract with Executive Assistant Thomas Gregory.

On a motion by Mr. Durant, seconded by Mr. Lucy, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to approve and sign a contract with Executive Assistant Thomas Gregory.

b) Selectmen to consider approval and authorization to sign a contract with E. J. Prescott for fire hydrants, amount not to exceed $18,655.50.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to approve and authorize the signing of a contract with E. J. Prescott for fire hydrants, amount not to exceed $18,655.50.

c) Selectmen to consider approval and authorization to sign a contract with F.G. Sullivan Drilling Co. for repairs to the recycle pump at the wastewater treatment facility for an amount not to exceed $20,876.00.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Quinn, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to approve and authorize the signing of a contract with F.G. Sullivan Drilling Co. for repairs to the recycle pump at the wastewater treatment facility for an amount not to exceed $20,876.00.

d) Selectmen to consider approval and authorization to sign a contract with Woodard & Curran for the completion of a Risk and Resilience Assessment in compliance with the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (AWIA) for an amount not to exceed $30,000.00.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Parent, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to approve and authorize the signing of a contract with Woodard & Curran for

the completion of a Risk and Resilience Assessment in compliance with the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (AWIA) for an amount not to exceed $30,000.00.

7. General:

a) Selectmen to consider appointing special counsel for the matter of Zisler Investment Associates Limited Partnership v. Hudson Planning Board and Global Montello Group Corporation, Middlesex Superior Court Docket No. 21-473.

On a motion by Mr. Parent, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to appoint special counsel for the matter of Zisler Investment Associates Limited Partnership v. Hudson Planning Board and Global Montello Group Corporation, Middlesex Superior Court Docket No. 21-473.

b) Selectmen to discuss the crosswalk at 50 Main Street.

Mr. Johnson suggested that the Board approve a bump out at the head of the first parking space at 50 Main Street. She explained that the crosswalk is too close to the end of the space and it hinders the ability of the driver to see someone waiting to cross. The Board agreed.

On a motion by Mr. Durant, seconded by Mr. Parent, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to have a bump out placed at the head of the first parking space (going west) in front of 50 Main Street.

c) Selectmen to consider allowing in-person early voting on Monday, May 3rd through Thursday May 6th from 8AM-4:30PM at the Town Hall for the May 10, 2021 Annual Town Election.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to allow in-person early voting on Monday, May 3rd through Thursday May 6th from 8AM-4:30PM at the Town Hall for the May 10, 2021 Annual Town Election.

d) Selectmen to consider accepting a donation from Ruben Souza to the Police Department in the amount of $100.00.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Quinn, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to accept a donation from Ruben Souza to the Police Department in the amount of $100.00.

e) Selectmen to consider authorizing the Executive Assistant to enter into a Host Community Agreement with TSC Delivery, LLC, located on Kane Industrial Drive.

Ryan Cohen, 25 Harriman Street explained that there will not be any retail or production at this location. This business is a home delivery service business.

On a motion by Mr. Parent, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to authorize the Executive Assistant to enter into a Host Community Agreement with TSC Delivery, LLC, located on Kane Industrial Drive.

8. Budget:

a) Selectmen to conduct FY 2022 Budget Hearings:

Department	Dept. #	Amount Requested
School Department	3050	$40,450,000

Dr. Rodrigues, along with members of the School Committee, presented the FY22 school department budget. Steve Smith, chair of the school committee stated that the goal of this budget is to maintain existing services. There is a new program that was factored into the budget however never began due to COVID. This is the dual English/Portuguese language program for kindergarten students.

Dr. Rodrigues noted that there will be four contract negotiations for the FY 23 which will impact the budget therefore he is trying hard to maintain the stability of the budget this year.

Mr. Lucy shared his concern last fall about losing a cohort of children in the COVID crisis and its aftermath and stated that he remains particularly concerned about a cohort sub-set of 700 school children who receive financial assistance for school meals like breakfast and lunch. The number of these children came up during the School Committee's classroom deliberations last August. Returning to the classroom full time was thought to be best for these children and their parents. Hybrid was better than fully remote learning for this cohort sub-set. Mr. Lucy went on to say that he is sure that Dr. Rodrigues and all the teachers and their aides, all building nurses and all the disinfectant crews and all the department's personnel did the very best they could do and continue to do to impart as much learning to all the district's children while keeping them safe. He commended him and all school personnel.

Mr. Lucy then referred to Dr. Rodrigues' statements regarding how the district is facing a hard reality due to the decline in student enrollment and the increasing number of students who need additional services. Mr. Lucy stated that Dr. Rodrigues makes no mention of the costs outside the classrooms. He believes that channeling funds into the classroom will help increase educational outcomes. More efficient use of resources to channel into classrooms should include right sizing outside the nurse's offices and outside the classrooms.

Mr. Lucy ended by stating that he wishes the process would abandon the Proposed Difference Table and present only the Actual Expenses and Budget Table.

Dr. Rodrigues noted that the stabilization plan was created three-years ago. This original document was creating in order to state what the problem was and how to move beyond this point. There has been internal growth in supporting students by creating more programs and services in order to maintain students internally. As a result, Hudson has one of the fewest amounts of out of district students.

On a motion by Mr. Parent, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the amount of $40,450,000 for the FY 2022 School Department budget.

9. Town Issues:

Mr. Duplisea thanked Mr. Durant for his years of service as it became official that he would not seek re-election.

10. Correspondence to be Noted by Clerk:

On a motion by Mr. Quinn, seconded by Mr. Parent, voted 5-0 by roll call to note the correspondence of its meeting of April 5, 2021.

11. Executive Session:

12. Adjourn:

On a motion by Mr. Durant, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to adjourn its meeting of April 5, 2021 at 8:30PM.

Board of Selectmen
Correspondence List – April 5, 2021

1. List of businesses in Watershed Protection District. (VIA EMAIL)
2. Updated FIOS TV rate card.

3. MOTT grant award letter.
4. SAFER Grant application.

All non-confidential documents relative to this agenda are available in the Office of the Select Board and on BoardDocs.com