

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Board of Selectmen's Report

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Town Clerk's Summary of Licenses Issued in 2020

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The Selectmen are the Chief Elected Officials of the Town of Hudson. As the senior elected officials, the Selectmen are the primary policy makers for the town. They serve as appointing authority for the Executive Assistant and most non-elected committee positions. They must also approve all employee appointments. The Selectmen are also the statutory licensing authority for the town, as well as being charged with executing most contracts for the town.

The Board voted to change its name to the Hudson Select Board to reflect gender neutrality at its meeting of January 4, 2021.

MEMBERSHIP

The Annual May Town Election was delayed due to the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic and the state mandated lockdown and was not conducted until June 29, 2020. The Town Election had Scott Duplisea winning his bid for reelection. Following the vote, the Board undertook its yearly reorganization by electing its officers; Joseph Durant was re-elected as Chairman, John Parent as Vice-Chairman, and James Quinn as Clerk.

APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL

In 2020, the Board approved appointments of several members of the community to serve on Town Boards and Committees. We thank not only our past Board members all for their years of service to the Town of Hudson, but also those recently appointed for their anticipated contributions as we all work toward our common goal of improving our community.

In February, the Board was pleased to appoint Richard DiPersio as the Town's new Police Chief. He succeeded Chief Michael Burks who had served the Hudson community for 33 years. We thank Chief Burks for his dedication and service and wish him a long, happy and health retirement.

LICENSING

As the licensing authority for restaurants, alcohol establishments, automobile dealers, and other commercial activities, the Selectmen are regularly busy with licensing matters. The Board issued approximately 180 licenses in 2020.

We would like to acknowledge the difficulties many of these local businesses faced during 2020 due to the global pandemic and wish them success going forward. The Board approved several outdoor dining permits in order allow businesses to continue to operate during these difficult and unprecedented times. We thank all our businesses as well as their neighbors for their patience and dedication throughout the pandemic.

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

In 2020, the Board was pleased to sign numerous contracts throughout the year for the rehabilitation, repair and/or replacement of town streets, buildings and equipment. The Town's Chapter 90 apportionment for Fiscal Year 2021 is \$576,994. Chapter 90 funds are State monies allocated for roadway projects such as resurfacing and related work.

TOWN MEETING ACTIONS

The May Annual Town Meeting was also postponed due to the COVID 19 crisis and was not held until June. It was held in the High School Auditorium, as well as other areas in the high school to allow for adequate social distancing. It was a logistical challenge, and many articles were delayed until November to allow for a quicker meeting, but the voters adapted, and the meeting was held successfully. The voters approved the sum of approximately Fourteen Million Seven Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand Dollars to be borrowed for the purposes of engineering services, replacement, rehabilitation, and installation of various equipment and facility upgrades within the wastewater treatment and pump stations in Town among the articles.

The November Town Meeting was moved to the high school parking lot and changed from Monday night to Saturday afternoon for the comfort of the participants as the pandemic raged on but was again successfully completed. Our thanks to all whose hard work made these meeting successful and to the voters for their dedication and perseverance.

FISCAL ISSUES

At its annual tax classification hearing in December 2020, the Selectmen voted to set the minimum residential factor available for FY21 at .8756, resulting in tax rates of \$16.59 per \$1,000 Residential and \$33.16 per \$1,000 for Commercial and Industrial properties.

COVID 19

It was a year like no other but the people of Hudson, the employees of the Town, and all of its elected and appointed officials rose above. Meetings were conducted by zoom and business by appointment, but the government continued to function and meet the needs of the citizenry. The Public Safety Departments and the Public Works Department worked throughout the pandemic to provide the basic necessities and protections to the people of the town. All of the various departments in Town Government made modifications and adaptations in order to continue to serve the people. We note with sadness that the pandemic claimed two of our former colleagues George McGee and Antonio Chaves.

The Board would like to thank all of the Town employees for their work and sacrifice this year and to thank all of the citizens for their patience and resiliency. We hope and pray that the next year brings an end to the pandemic and a return to normalcy but we take great pride in the accomplishments of the employees and the citizens of our wonderful town.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Joseph J. Durant, Chairman

John Parent, Vice Chairman

James D. Quinn, Clerk

Scott R. Duplisea

Fred P. Lucy

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Story of the Year

The final entry of my 2019 annual report submission was this “Coda - Everything you just read may be modified due to the 2020 coronavirus pandemic that is occurring as I write this.” Everything did change, not only for Hudson Town government, but for everyone, everywhere.

In response to worsening conditions Town offices closed, then reopened. then closed again. We continued to operate at full capacity during the entire year. Although we curtailed many public-facing services, the business of local government continued undeterred. This could not have been accomplished without the leadership of the Select Board, and the incredible work of countless Town employees.

First and foremost is Kelli Calo, our Health Director. Kelli’s world was turned upside down and through it all she kept information flowing, testing available and is now directing people to vaccination resources.

Our IT Director Eron Dilo scrambled to improve our remote-work capabilities, figured out a way to conduct remote meetings and leveraged considerable federal aid to do so. We cannot mention federal aid without recognizing the immense contributions of our Finance Director, Patricia Fay, who almost single-handedly kept our engine running. Department Heads such as Steven Santos in Recreation and Aileen Sanchez-Himes got creative to adapt programs to offer during shutdown. As always, Chief Johannes and Chief DiPersio made sure that Hudson was safe. Chief Johannes was critical in obtaining sanitation and PPE for employees. Town Clerk Joan Wordell handled a historic presidential election without a hitch and offered up an al fresco, yet blustery, November Town Meeting.

My eternal gratitude goes to Fernanda Santos and Teresa Vickery in my office who helped me hold it all together, stay on top of ever-changing requirements and kept everything working.

All those employees not named also pitched in and did whatever was asked, and offered creative and important suggestions.

Water

In 2019 Precision Coating designed and constructed the PFAS solution at our Cranberry Well, and the Town added system-wide filtration at Chestnut. Our treated water is now PFAS-free. The challenge in 2020 was that the status of our filtration systems was deemed “temporary” by the MA Department of Reve-

nue. We are in the process of designing a permanent facility. None of this would have happened, or will happen, without DPW Director Eric Ryder.

Meanwhile, PFAS filtration added costs to our Water Division operations. The media at both filtration facilities needs to be replaced approximately annually. We successfully negotiated a settlement with Precision Coating that will offset much of this cost for many years.

Downtown

We completed the rotary project to improve the streetscape in Wood Square, more safely move traffic through the roadway and most importantly, to improve pedestrian safety. An ancillary benefit of this project was to create space for outdoor seating at current and future Wood Square restaurants. Visitors to Hudson are now greeted with an even more vibrant street scene.

On the edge of downtown, we demolished the mill building at 15 Broad Street. We did so with funding from MassDevelopment. Not a single taxpayer dollar was used for this project. Environmental assessment of the site continues, and if the risks and costs of cleanup are minimal at worst, we will foreclose on this parcel to create additional downtown parking.

Town Hall

We completed the roof work at Town Hall. We will continue to work on other facets of the exterior and interior. Much of the funding for this project comes from the Community Preservation Act.

Personnel

2020 saw the retirement of Planning & Community Development Director Jack Hunter. Jack was a large factor in the success of our downtown. Although Jack will be missed, the vacancy offered new opportunities for both Kristina Johnson, who is currently the Acting Planning & Community Development Director, and Pam Helinek our planner and conservation agent extraordinaire.

Fiscal

Despite our other challenges, Hudson continues to improve its fiscal position. We have increased reserves while at the same time keeping taxes well under our Proposition 2 ½ levy limit. Much work lies ahead. Water and sewer infrastructure needs will continue to drive utility rates higher. Although health insurance cost increases have slowed, our health insurance trust fund needs to increase its balance.

The biggest challenge of 2020 was obviously dealing with the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. The onset of the pandemic in February and March brought on a period of uncertainty and challenge that has not yet ended. In response to an uncertain Fiscal Year 2021 state budget, we reduced our own approved budget by 2% in November. This put us in a position to avoid substantial reductions in services in Fiscal Year 2022, despite more state budget uncertainty.

Obrigado.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Moses
Executive Assistant

TOWN OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

<u>BOARD / COMMITTEE</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
FINANCE COMMITTEE	Robert Clark, Chairman	6/30/2022
	Jillian Jagling	6/30/2022
	Shawn Sadowski	6/30/2021
	Barbara Rose	6/30/2022
	(Resigned 3/12/2020)	
	Claudinator Salomao	6/30/2023
	Guy Beaudette	6/30/2023
	Andrew Massa	6/30/2023
	Steven Sharek	6/30/2021
	Sam Calandra	6/30/2021
	Andrew Horvitz	6/30/2022
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	Thomas Moses	6/30/2021
DIRECTOR MUNICIPAL FINANCE	Patricia Fay	Indefinite
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	Patricia Fay	1/25/2022
ASSISTANT TOWN ACCOUNTANT	Ruifan Zhang	
TREASURER/COLLECTOR	Dianne Cush Retired (Retired 4/2/2020)	10/6/2020
ACTING TREASURER/COLLECTOR	William Weagle	
TOWN CLERK	Joan M. Wordell	02/02/2023
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK	Dawn K. Jacobs	
TOWN COUNSEL	Aldo A. Cipriano	Indefinite
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Jack Hunter (Retired 8/1/2020)	Indefinite
ACTING DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Kristina Johnson App't'd 8/1/2020	
ACTING ASST. DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Pamela Helinek App't'd 8/1/2020	
PLANNER/CONSERVATION AGENT		Indefinite

<u>BOARD / COMMITTEE</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
FIRE CHIEF	Bryan Johannes	Indefinite
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF	Stephen Carviveau	
POLICE CHIEF	Michael D. Burks, Sr. (Retired 2/29/2020)	Indefinite
	Richard DiPersio	Indefinite
DIRECTOR PUBLIC WORKS	Eric Ryder	Indefinite
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Maged Kamel	Indefinite
DIRECTOR RECREATION	Steven Santos	Indefinite
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Daniel Hannon	Indefinite
VETERANS AGENT	Brian Stearns	Indefinite
DIRECTOR LICENSES	Jeffrey R. Wood	Indefinite
BUILDING COMMISSIONER	Jeffrey R. Wood	Indefinite
DEPUTY BLDG COMM	Mark Bertonassi	Indefinite
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	John D. Lampinen	Indefinite
DEPUTY PLUMING INSPECTOR	Lawrence Joyce	Indefinite
WIRING INSPECTOR	Michael Cardinale (Deceased 11/18/2020)	Indefinite
DEPUTY WIRING INSPECTOR	Dennis Monteiro	Indefinite
SEALER WEIGHTS & MEAURES	Joseph Mulvey	Indefinite
BOARD OF APPEALS	Darja Nevits,Ch	12/31/2021
	Pamela Cooper	12/31/2022
	Todd Pietrasiak, Chairman (Resigned 7/10/2020)	12/31/2020
	Jill Schafer	12/31/2021
	Jason Mauro	12/31/2022
	Matthew Russell	12/31/2020
Associate Members	Justin O'Neil	12/31/2022

	Ronald Sorgman	12/31/2020
BOARD OF REGISTRARS	Gladys A. Beaudette, Ch	3/31/2022
	David Baran	3/31/2021
	Peter Feil	3/31/2023
	Joan M. Wordell, Clerk	

BOARD / COMMITTEE

APPOINTED

TERM EXPIRES

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

	Jason Weksner	12/31/2020
	(Resigned 4/16/2020)	
	Brandon Parker	12/31/2020
	James Martin	12/31/2022
	David S. Mercer, Ch	12/31/2020
	Debra Edelstein	12/31/2022
	Paul Osborne	12/31/2020
	Emilie Wilder	12/31/2021
	Heid Graf	12/31/2021
Associate Members	Frank Casserta	12/31/2022
	(Resigned 10/9/2020)	

CULTURAL COUNCIL

	Stephanie Plourde-Simard	12/31/2020
	Jennifer Finn	12/31/2020
	Sarah Worrest	12/31/2020
	Dorothy Bagley	12/31/2021
	Ellen King	12/31/2020
	Patricia Luoto	12/31/2020
	Bob Olkin	12/31/2020
	(Resigned 9/10/2020)	
	Jane Gordon	12/31/2020
	Peter Fiske	12/31/2021
	Donna Specian	12/31/2021
	Cheryl Lombardo	12/31/2023
	Ellen Kisslinger	12/31/2023

COUNCIL ON AGING

	Nina Smith	12/31/2020
	Diane Durand	12/31/2020
	Edward Silveira	12/31/2021
	Melissa Esteves	12/31/2022
	Anthony Monteiro	12/31/2020
	John V. Giombetti, Chair	12/31/2021
	(Resigned 8/4/2020)	
	Charles Corley	12/31/2022

	Patricia Desmond	12/31/2021
	John J. Gill	12/31/2022
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION	Thomas P. Davis	12/31/2023
	Sarah B. Cressy	12/31/2024
	Hugh R. Gardner	12/31/2024
	Christopher Tibbals	12/31/2021
	Thomas Ricci	12/31/2020
	William J. Sullivan	12/31/2022
	Sara Foster	12/31/2020
	Charles Randall	12/31/2024
	Vacant	12/31/2022
<u>BOARD / COMMITTEE</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY	Bryan Johannes	
FORT MEADOW COMMISSION	Gary Pelletier	12/31/2022
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	Peter Breton	12/31/2022
	Mark Terra-Salomao	12/31/2021
	Dandrick Gelin	12/31/2021
	Michael Volk	12/31/2021
	Charles Wilkinson (Resigned 8/1/2020)	12/31/2021
	Paul Shultz	12/31/2022
	Albert Morel Jr.	12/31/2022
	Robert Sorgman	12/31/2020
SILAS FELTON HUDSON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Maria Markonidis	12/31/2021
	Paul Osborne	
	James David Quinn	12/31/2022
	Arthur P. Redding	12/31/2022
	James Blauch	12/31/2020
FINANCE AUTHORITY	George E. McGee	12/31/2021
INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS	Jennifer Condon	3/31/2021

LAKE BOONE COMMISSION	Conray H. Wharff, Jr.	12/31/2022
METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBER	Jack Hunter (Retired 8/1/2020) Kristina Johnson	08/26/2020 9/23/2023
METROWEST REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY	Kristina Johnson	
VETERANS GRAVES OFFICER	James Cabral	12/31/2020
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE	Peter Breton George Luoto Ann Marie Lourens Robert D'Amelio Brandon Parker Michael Chaves Joseph Durant Linda Ghiloni John Parent,Ch	12/31/2021 12/31/2020 12/31/2020 12/31/2021 12/31/2021 12/31/2022 12/31/2022 12/31/2020 12/31/2021

BOARD / COMMITTEE

APPOINTED

TERM EXPIRES

MUNICIPAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND	Kevin L. Santos James Quinn John Parent Robin Frank Darryl Filippi Suhma Singh Jory Tsai Ian Mazmanian Anna McCabe	12/31/2021 12/31/2021 12/31/2021 12/31/2021 12/31/2020 12/31/2020 12/31/2020 12/31/2020 12/31/2020
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BOARD / COMMITTEE

APPOINTED

TERM EXPIRES

CENTENNIAL BEACH PROJECT BUILDING COMMITTEE	Steven Santos Eric Ryder Michael Chaves	
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TOWN OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

<u>BOARD / COMMITTEE</u>	<u>ELECTED</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>	
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Joseph J. Durant, Chairman	05/2021	
	Scott R. Duplisea	05/2023	
	John Parent	05/2021	
	James David Quinn	05/2022	
	Fred P. Lucy, II	05/2022	
MODERATOR	Richard Harrity	05/2021	
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Glenn Maston, Chairman	05/2021	
	Nina Ryan	05/2021	
	Michele Tousignant Dufour	05/2023	
	Matthew McDowell	05/2021	
	Adam Tracy	05/2023	
	Rebecca Weksner (Resigned 8/22/20)	05/2022	
	Steven Smith	05/2022	
	Elizabeth Hallsworth (Appt'd to 9/14/20)	05/2021	
TRUSTEE BENEVOLENT FUNDS	Barbara Gustafason	05/2021	
	Diane Buchanan, Chairman	05/2023	
	AnneMarie Lourens	05/2022	
HUDSON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Ethan Mikula (Resigned 11/16/2020)	05/2021	
	Glenn R. Davis, Chairman, (Resigned 9/1/2020)	05/2017	
	Bryan Johannes	05/2024	
	Mary Lou McKeone Resigned (Resigned 8/17/2020)	05/2023	
	Stephen Domenicucci (Appt'd 10/19/2020)	5/2021	
	Sarah Cressy (Appt'd 12/7/2021)	5/2021	
	State Appointed Member	Ann Marie Lourens	05/2020

MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

Jeffrey Supernor

05/2021

Justin Provencher

05/2023

Manager

Brian Choquette

BOARD / COMMITTEE

ELECTED

TERM EXPIRES

PARK COMMISSION

Robert Bowen, Chairman

05/2022

Michael Chaves Sr.,

05/2023

Jay Roan

05/2021

BOARD OF HEALTH

Christie Vaillancourt

05/2023

Jay Murphy, Chairman

05/2021

Michael A. Delfino

05/2022

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Maryalice McCormack, Chairman

05/2022

Thomas Desmond

05/2023

Christopher Capobianco

05/2021

PLANNING BOARD

Robert D'Amelio, Chairman

05/2021

Rodney Frias

05/2021

Dirk Underwood

05/2022

Steven Goldberg

05/2022

(Resigned 8/5/2020)

Darryl Filippi

05/2023

(Appt'd 10/19/2020)

05/2023

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Christine DiMare

05/2022

Nelson Luz Santos, Chairman

05/2023

Gary Collins

05/2021

CONSTABLES

George McGee

05/2022

Michael Peckham

05/2023

Michael D. Schreiner

05/2021

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Joanne McIntyre

05/2021

Christine A Griffin, Chairman

05/2022

Brian G Bowen

05/2023

VOCATIONAL REGIONAL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER

William J. Charbonneau, Jr

05/2023

Board of Health / Health Department

The Board of Health strives to promote the health of our residents through prevention and control of disease and injury. The department is overseen by a three-member elected board, providing policy direction to our staff. The Hudson Board of Health is managed by our Director of Public and Community Health, Kelli M. Calo. In 2020, she was assisted by Marcia Blakely (Administrative Assistant), Eduardo St. Louis (Sanitarian), Lauren Antonelli-Zullo (Substance Abuse Prevention Program Coordinator), and Kali Coughlan (Mass in Motion Program Coordinator).

In 2020, the department structured our various programs into four main areas: Environmental Health, Community Health, COVID-19 Pandemic Response, and Emergency Preparedness Planning and Response.

Environmental Health Programs

We continued our work in various environmental health programs in 2020, including:

- Onsite Waste Water Disposal Systems (septic systems/Title 5)
- Food Protection Program (food inspections)
- Housing (landlord/tenant, bedbugs)
- Body Arts (tattooing and body piercing)
- Tanning (indoor tanning beds)
- Swimming Pools (public & semi-public)
- Recreational Water Safety (lakes and ponds, beaches, blue-green algae)
- Keeping of Animals (backyard chicken coops, etc.)
- Body Works (massage parlors, etc.)
- Hazardous Wastes (household hazardous waste collection events)
- Medical Wastes (including medical sharps)
- Solid Wastes (trash and recycling)
 - Transfer Station
 - Curbside Pick Up
- Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention (lead paint)
- Beaver Control
- Mosquito Control (EEE, West Nile Virus)
- Tick-borne Illnesses (Lyme disease)
- Recreational Camps for Children
- Asbestos Control
- Lead determination
- Private Drinking Water Safety (private drinking wells)
- Nuisance Complaints (odor and air quality, vermin, noise, trash)

B-P Trucking, Inc. took over operation of the transfer station in June of 1999, and has continued to provide efficient and sanitary operation of the facility. Fees approved by the Board for trash disposal at the facility are available for review at our office or on the Town's website.

In early 2020, the Hudson Board of Health continued to work towards the new town-wide curbside pick-up program. After a six-month long study in 2019, the Recycling Sustainability Committee (RSC) recommend a launch of a weekly, town-wide pickup program that would be entirely voluntary, and paid by users of the service. While the program was set to begin in summer of 2020, the program was put on hold due to the unprecedented challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to shift all staff resources to address it. We look forward to a relaunch of the program in 2021.

The Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project continued to provide mosquito control for us in 2020.

Community Health Programs

We started or continued to work on various community health programs in 2020, including:

- MetroWest Moves (Mass in Motion)
 - Community Food Assessment
 - Age Friendly Community
 - Bench Project
 - Food Planning
 - Mobile Food Pantry
- Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention
- Dementia Friendly Community
 - Dementia Sensitivity Training
 - Dementia Friendly Database
- Community Health Needs Assessment
- Hoarding Support and Intervention
- Farmers' Market
- Public Health Nursing
 - COVID-19
- Flu Clinic
 - Community, Employee, and School
- Tobacco Control

With the increase in vaping product use amongst youth in Hudson, the Hudson Board of Health voted to amend their regulation entitled "Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products" in December 2019. The regulation includes, but is not limited to, expanding the regulation to include restricting the sale of flavored tobacco products, including mint, menthol and wintergreen, to adult only retail tobacco stores. The regulation went into effect on March 16, 2020. A copy of the regulation can be found at our office or on the Town's website.

In 2019, our Department participated in the MetroWest Community Health Needs Assessment. Based on the results of this assessment, we engaged in the development of the regional Community Health Improvement Plan in 2020. We served as local public health representatives on the steering committee of this project. This plan will be finalized in the first half of 2021.

We continued our existing community health grant programs in 2020. Serving as the lead community, we coordinated the MetroWest Moves program with our partner communities (Framingham, Marlborough, and Northborough). MetroWest Moves is part of a Mass in Motion (MiM) program funded by Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In 2019 and early 2020, we completed an assessment of bench seating available along the Assabet River Rail Trail stretches in Hudson and Marlborough and identified gaps. Working in partnership with the Hudson Recreation Department, we put together a bench donation program and identified locations for six additional benches. Currently seating on the rail trail is fairly limited and the goal of this project is to expand the seating options so those who need to rest during a walk, run or bike ride have an option to do so about every half mile. The other main program focus for 2020 was promoting healthy food access. Our Mass in Motion coordinator did research to create a food policy council and has facilitated conversations with several municipal leaders, nonprofit professionals, K-12 and higher education institutions and funders to gauge interest in moving this work forward. Many of the issues a food policy council would focus on are things identified in the Community Food Assessment that was finalized in 2019.

In 2020, the Hudson Board of Health partnered with the Hudson Housing Authority and the Boys and Girls Club to secure a grant through Open Table food pantry in Maynard to provide a mobile food pantry at the housing authority locations. This is a monthly food delivery that serves about 75 residents. The program is now being run almost entirely by volunteers from the Hudson community. We look forward to continuing this program in 2021.

In 2020, we continued to lead surrounding communities in efforts to reduce and prevent underage drinking. In 2015, we were awarded a regional grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to address underage drinking and other substance use. This funding helps to provide much needed financial resources for us to address this issue. The Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative (SAPC) grant allows us to lead a coalition of towns including Ashland, Framingham, Natick, Northborough and Southborough. Amidst the pandemic, we were able to hire a new Program Coordinator, Lauren Antonelli, who started in August of 2020. In 2020, our priority was on the sustainability of the program. We applied for and received a grant in the amount of \$30,000 from the MetroWest Health Foundation to bring 12 Emotional CPR (eCPR) trainings to adults in the Hudson community to help strengthen emotional resilience and build community support for emotional crises, which is especially important in this time of the COVID pandemic. We plan to roll out this training in 2021.

Lastly, and of critical importance, we applied for a MassCALL3 grant from BSAS, which is essentially the continuation of the current SAPC grant. MassCALL stands for the Massachusetts Collaborative for Action Leadership and Learning. If awarded, Hudson would continue on as the lead municipality in our Central MetroWest Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative, which includes Ashland, Framingham, Natick, Northborough and Southborough. Our MassCALL proposal included memorandum of understandings (MOUs) from those five municipalities to continue our work together, and also included the additions of Marlborough and Westborough, who would like to join our cluster and partner in our regional efforts. The SAPC program continues to pursue available opportunities related to youth substance use prevention and community wellness more broadly. In 2020, we continued to develop our Caring Adults strategy for building and strengthening caring and supportive relationships between youth and adults in our community, as such relationships are evidenced to be a protective factor against youth substance use. We also continued to focus on the promotion of alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana policies that support healthy choices and lifestyles for all members of our community, especially our youth.

In 2020, the Health Department continued to coordinate the Hudson Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (YSAP). The coalition continued to work with the Hudson Public School system, Hudson Recreation, and various other youth-serving organizations to address substance use amount Hudson youth. Hudson YSAP planned to host its' Second Annual Dodgeball Tournament in April, 2020. However, this event was postponed due to the quick, unpredictable onset of COVID-19. We will plan to host this event as soon as we are able to.

In 2020, the Health Department alongside the Conservation Agent and the Assabet Valley Chamber of Commerce, managed the fourth year of the Hudson Farmer's Market in the front of Town Hall in downtown Hudson from June to September. The market had great success and offered a variety of products from vendors, including but not limited to: fresh fruits and vegetables, honey, meat, poultry, and bread goods. Challenges in the planning resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic, but those were overcome and the market went very well including the addition of four new winter markets. We look forward to adding a few early spring markets in 2021.

The Board continued an agreement with the VNA Care Network, Inc. to provide public health nursing services, including blood pressure clinics at the Hudson Senior Center for the first part of 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the VNA stopped blood pressure clinics for the safety of their staff and our residents. We also contracted with Nancy Cleary, RN, to conduct communicable disease follow-ups.

In 2020, we held seven (7) flu clinics. We held our annual flu clinic at the Hudson High School, as well as a municipal employee clinic. Due to the COVID-19, both the annual flu clinic and the municipal employee flu clinic were conducted in a drive-through style. We held a flu clinic at the Hudson Senior Center for Hudson senior citizens. The state announced in August 2020 that all students attending in-person classes, with some exceptions, would be required to get a flu shot to head off a possible collide of two severe respiratory illnesses during the coronavirus crisis. Given this new mandate, we host a series of four (4) clinics at the Hudson Public School systems to vaccinate both students and staff. In total of all six (6) clinics, we vaccinated over 600 individuals.

In 2020, we investigated these communicable diseases:

Disease	Number of Cases
Babesiosis	2
Campylobacteriosis	5
Group A streptococcus	1
Group B streptococcus	3
Hepatitis A	1
Hepatitis C	5
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	2
Influenza	75
Legionellosis	3
Listeriosis	1
Novel Coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc)	960
Salmonellosis	2
Shiga toxin producing organism	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae	1
Tuberculosis	17

COVID-19 Pandemic Response

2020 was one of the most challenging years in the history of our country and in the history of the Hudson Health Department. The unprecedented challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic has forced us not only into an emergency footing for all of the past year, but impacted just about every program run by the Hudson Health Department.

We began various COVID-19 related programs in early 2020. Our first major effort was our contact tracing program for Hudson residents and businesses. Over the late Spring and Summer months, we conducted contact tracing with the assistance of the Hudson Public School nursing staff. When the HPS nurses returned to school in Fall of 2020, we hired temporary full-time and part-time contact tracers (Felipe Neto and Ellen Church, respectively) to engage with confirmed COVID-19 cases and their close contacts. These contact tracers maintained prompt and consistent communication with Hudson residents throughout significant peaks in virus spread, contacting all 960 positive residents for COVID-19.

The Health Department assisted businesses to reopen according to State COVID-19 guidelines. We compiled and distributed a user-friendly business reopening guide for organizations struggling to navigate the State directives. We then continued educating businesses on COVID-19 protocols as new guidelines emerged. To further ensure safe business practices, the Health Department inspected businesses for COVID-19 violations. If businesses violated State guidelines, we directed them towards resources that would assist them in remediating the situation. Our Director and Administrative Assistant also sat on the Re-Open Hudson Committee that assisted municipal departments with town-specific opening guidelines and necessary procedures to follow to keep residents and municipal staff safe.

We also committed to providing Hudson residents with evidence-based COVID-19 education. Our general COVID-19 education began promptly with the onset of the pandemic and evolved to include COVID-19 vaccination education when the first vaccine was granted Emergency Use Authorization by the FDA. The first pillar of our education strategy included direct responses to resident inquiries. When community members contacted us directly through phone, email, or social media, we provided real-time education or directed them toward relevant resources. The COVID-19 section of our website was kept up-to-date with the latest case counts, State guidelines, and other COVID-19-related information. Additionally, we assisted local organizations, such as grocery stores and housing authorities, in providing COVID-19-related educational materials and signage to residents and patrons. Lastly, we published informational and supportive social media content several times per week on our Facebook page. With this strategy, we reach individuals who directly interact with our social media page. When residents share our content with their Facebook connections, we also reach Hudson residents who may not seek our information directly.

Lastly, the Health Department began the planning process to bring COVID-19 vaccination clinics for eligible residents, the first being held in early 2021.

As we exit a challenging 2020, we are hopeful that our continued efforts will bring Hudson to a healthier future. We look forward to a time when we may all look back on the COVID-19 pandemic as important history rather than a current reality.

Emergency Preparedness Planning and Response

We continue to spend many hours working with other town departments, surrounding communities, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) to prepare and update our Public Health Emergency Plan. Hudson is part of the MDPH Emergency Preparedness Planning Region 4A. The Region comprises 33 towns and cities in the Boston MetroWest area. The coalition was formed in 2003 to facilitate sharing of resources and development of local and regional plans for public health emergency response. Hudson served as the Chair of the coalition in 2011.

The Hudson Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is active. Our MRC unit, which was organized in 2006, is a part of the Massachusetts Region 4A MRC. Our regional MRC is the nation's largest MRC with over five thousand volunteers. The MRC is made up of volunteers who assist in preparing for and responding to public health emergencies. We have successfully recruited more than one hundred volunteers to join our local chapter. In 2020, with the help of our MRC and other volunteers, we were able to provide a seasonal influenza vaccination clinic at the High School.

Since 2009, Hudson has Mutual Aid Agreements with Stow, Maynard, Northborough and Southborough to share resources in the event of public health emergencies.

We want to take this opportunity to thank other town boards and staff that have continued to provide assistance in the implementation of our responsibilities.

The Board's meetings are as posted on the Town Website, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. As always, public participation of these meetings is welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Christie Vaillancourt, RN, BSN, NCSN, Chair
Michael Delfino, Vice Chair
Jay Murphy, Clerk

Fort Meadow Commission 2020 Annual Update

General:

The 2020 public boating season on Fort Meadow got a later usual start as a result of the COVID Pandemic. Opening of the ramp was paused until mid-June while waiting further guidance and approval from the Health Department. Also, as a result of the pandemic, there was a dramatic increase in boating traffic on the lake – especially during the weekends. Apparently, one of the only activities that wasn't overly restricted was boating, due to its natural social distancing. This presented additional challenges to the Commission that I'll talk more about a bit later.

The Fort Meadow Commission only had 4 active members in 2020 – down from 6 in 2019. With the retirement of Hudson Fort Meadow Commissioner Kaczmarek and a resignation of a Marlborough Commissioner – that left the increased lake responsibilities to those remaining members. The Commission is actively recruiting additional Agents and Commissioners, but the available candidate population is limited. Regardless, active patrols continued ensuring almost daily lake oversight while encouraging proper boater safety operation and training. Additionally, pro-active engagement of the Commission with the local Community has strengthened the relationships across the lake and within the towns while emphasizing safe lake sports and boating as the primary priority.

The Fort Meadow Commission continued to support and encourage the use of the slalom course in the center of the large basin. This slalom course continued to receive positive interest and almost daily use with little to no boater inconvenience.

The Commission in conjunction with the Marlborough DPW continued to maintain and make improvements to the Gene Hixon Public Boat Launch. Specifically, repairs were made to public dock sections that required substantial welding. Also, additional dock bumpers and wheels were purchased to replaced, worn/damaged equipment.

As in past years, Ft Meadow Commission funding was used for patrolling the Lake, procuring safety equipment such as buoys/markers, Lake weed treatment and maintenance of the Gene Hixson Boat Launch and public dock.

Safety:

Safety remains the number one priority for the Fort Meadow Lake Commission.

2020, although extremely busy, was a very good year for the Fort Meadow boating community – thankfully, no major issues were encountered or reported.

As mentioned, boating traffic has increased dramatically in 2020 – partially attributable to COVID. Especially on good weather weekends and Holidays. The added boating traffic, along with no formal Massachusetts boater training or licensing requirements continues to concern the Commission greatly. To accommodate, the Fort Meadow Commission in conjunction with the Environmental Police, have stepped up patrols during busy periods, but inexperienced boaters and jetski operators remain a challenge to the overall safety of the lake.

Lake Health:

The lake was dropped 4ft in mid-October at the recommendation of the Marlborough/Hudson Conservation Commissions to help keep invasive weeds and clams in check. This also allows lake residents to make beach and rock wall repairs after proper approvals are obtained.

The lake saw below normal water levels this past year, due to a very dry summer. Fortunately, lake navigation was not an issue with most of the high traffic shallow zones and rocks marked with Commission placed buoys.

Consistent with past years, weed surveys and any recommended and approved treatments will continue to be applied to help control invasive weeds keeping up the health of the lake. There was a rather aggressive resurgence of a type of invasive milfoil. Treatment took place in mid-June, but wasn't fully effective. The Commission is working with the Solitude – the contracted weed management company to address and resolve 2021

Although Marlborough coordinates the weed treatment contracts, Hudson contributes to funding the weed surveys/treatments. Weed treatment funding is in this year's budget request and is consistent with past requests.

Summary:

A schedule of the 2021 FMC meetings and agendas will be available at Hudson Town Hall and on the Hudson & Marlborough Town websites.

The Commission would like to thank the Fort Meadow residents and users for all of their suggestions, hard work and commitment to assuring that we had an enjoyable and safe 2020 season.

If you would like further information, you may contact the Fort Meadow Commission through Hudson Town Hall, Marlborough City Hall or you can email me at the address below.

Gary_R_Pelletier@Raytheon.com

Best Regards,
Gary Pelletier
Hudson Fort Meadow Lake Commissioner

LAKE BOON COMMISSION

The Lake Boon Commission (LBC) was enacted by the Massachusetts legislature as Chapter 712 of the Acts of 1941, with a charter of regulating the use of the waters of Lake Boon. It is an unpaid Commission comprised of three members: two appointed by the Stow Selectmen and one by the Hudson Selectmen. The LBC generally holds publicly posted meetings at the Stow Town Building about eight times per year or as otherwise needed. In March 2020, the LBC successfully transitioned to hosting its Public Meetings via Zoom as part of Covid 19 precautions.

Throughout 2020 the LBC was comprised of: Kris Krablin (Commissioner/Chairperson, Stow), Dan Barstow (Commissioner/Clerk, Stow) and Conray Wharff (Commissioner, Hudson). The LBC also acknowledges the invaluable volunteer work of David Gray (Stow) in responsibilities related to drawdown activities and community communications, and Andy Pollock (Hudson) for coordinating weed treatment. We also welcomed Megan Birch-McMichael as our new LBA Liaison from the Stow Board of Selectmen.

2020 was an exceptionally busy year for the LBC, with 17 Public Meetings and 3 Public Hearings. Key topics addressed were:

- Completion of the process of updating the LBC Boating Regulations to bring them into compliance with MA State Law, and incorporating the changes into the Stow Town Bylaws (Article 6. Police Regulations). This required another Town Hearing, and resulted in approval at the June 2020 Stow Annual Town Meeting.
- 3 year renewals of the expiring Order of Conditions (OoC) for the invasive weed treatment of the lake, issued by Stow & Hudson Conservation Commissions
- Replacement of the MA DEP Superseding Order of Conditions for the annual lake drawdown with new OoCs issued by the Stow & Hudson Conservation Commissions
- Collaboration with the Lake Boon Association, Stow & Hudson Conservation Commissions, Town Management and other partners to submit the "Healthy Lake Boon Initiative" proposal for a MA Municipal Vulnerability Program (MVP) grant. In the fall, a 2-year \$154k grant was awarded for the initiative. The project will engage local residents as "Citizen Scientists" to collect a variety of measurements for an integrated picture of the health of the lake. Working with scientists to interpret the data, the project will develop recommendations for future action to help improve and maintain the health of the lake. Dan Barstow represented the LBC on the proposal and continues as a member of the working group focused on execution.
- Support for Hallocks Point preservation options with a Chapter 61 Quick Response, and ongoing advocacy through the Stow Selectmen and other Stow commissions in an attempt to preserve as much of the land from development as possible.

Safety & Patrolling: 2020 was another year without any significant safety issues. Enforcement of boating rules and regulations are the responsibility of sworn police officers. These functions are performed by the Stow Police and the Environmental Police, with Stow Police patrolling the lake on a regular basis throughout the boating season. NOTE: All calls concerning Lake Boon safety and/or law violations must be made directly to Stow Police at 978-897-4545 or by calling 911. It is the responsibility of all persons using the lake to know and abide by the MA State boating rules/regulations, and the Lake Boon ByLaws & Rules (which can be found on the LBC section of the Stow Town website). Failure to do so can result in citations and fines.

Weed Treatment & Drawdown: Lake Boon has for many years been host to non-native invasive weeds, exacerbated by increased nutrient loading. The primary way to address this problem is through a comprehensive lake management program. Key features are steps to reduce nutrients reaching the lake, and aquatic vegetation management. The latter involves the annual licensed application of state-approved herbicides in accordance with state permits and Orders of Conditions (OOC) from the Conservation Commissions of Stow and Hudson. Total Lake Management through education, non-native invasive weed treatment, and lake drawdown continued to be a focus in 2020. "Solitude Lake Management" completed the Year 2 services of our 3-year Herbicide Treatment Program contract, with targeted treatments of Basins 2 & 3 with the diquat herbicide on June 12, focused on curlyleaf pondweed and variable watermilfoil. The lake drawdown program, which lowers the level of the lake during the

winter to help purge nutrients from the lake and kill peripheral vegetation by exposing it to deeper freezing, also continued in 2020 with the Spring refill being completed by April 1, and the Fall drawdown level reached prior to Dec 1.

Water Quality: This year we did not experience the level of algae blooms in the lake that we saw in 2019, and no confirmed reports of cyanobacterial blooms (with potentially harmful cyanotoxin levels).

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Krablin, Commissioner/Chairperson, Stow
Dan Barstow, Commissioner/Clerk, Stow
Conray Wharff, Commissioner, Hudson

Silas Felton Historic District Commission

During this past year the Silas Felton Historic District Commission continued its mission to both preserve and enhance the traditional historic feel of downtown Hudson while working with business and property owners to make our business district an attractive destination for all.

Although the COVID pandemic slowed or halted many projects in the works this past year, the commission has worked hard to keep all involved in the loop with a mind toward going forward as the crisis abates.

On a positive note, all applicants with pending projects have indicated their plans on going and have applied for and received permit extensions as a positive indication going forward.

As always, the Historic Commission members encourage all to enjoy and appreciate our wonderful downtown and look forward to a healthy and productive year going forward.

Respectfully,

James David Quinn, Vice Chair

2020 TOWN CLERK'S SUMMARY OF LICENSES AND FEES

SELECTMEN LICENSES	\$42,970.00
CERTIFIED COPIES VITAL STATISTICS	\$20,530.00
MISCELLANEOUS COPIES	\$50.50
MARRIAGE INTENTIONS 183	\$4,570.00
BUSINESS CERTIFICATES	\$5,000.00
POLE LOCATIONS @ 10	\$0.00
ZONING BOOKLETS, STREET BOOKS, ETC	\$95.00
RAFFLE PERMITS 7 @ \$10	\$70.00
STORAGE OF FLAMMABLES RENEWALS 33 @ \$40	\$1,320.00
BOARD FILING FEES	\$4,032.00
DOG LIC FINES	\$5,200.00
PREPAID RABIES SHOTS (Canceled due to COVID 19)	\$0.00
NON-CRIMINAL COMPLAINT FINES	\$1,950.00
NOTARY FEES	\$365.00
TOTAL	\$86,152.50

DOG LICENSES

247 - Male/Female @ \$15	\$3,705.00
1886 - Neutered/Spayed @ \$10	\$18,860.00
1 - Kennels @ \$35	\$35.00
4- Kennels @ \$60 (2 fee waived)	\$240.00
2- Kennel @ \$75 (2 fee waived)	\$150.00
1- Transfers @ \$1	\$1.00
TOTAL	\$22,991.00

4 fee waived MGL Ch 272 §98A
1 fee waived Non-Profit Charitable Kennel MGL Ch 140 §137A
235 fee waived MGL 140 § 139

VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY

BIRTHS RECORDED IN HUDSON	161
DEATHS RECORDED IN HUDSON	183
MARRIAGES RECORDED IN HUDSON	161