

THE Hudson Times

December 19, 2024 ♦ Volume 2 – Issue 51

A FREE Weekly Publication



HOLIDAY COLORS

The color guard members stand at attention during the National Anthem at the annual Wreath Across America ceremony held at Hills House in Hudson. The event took place on a cold and windy Saturday morning, Dec. 14. See more page 8-9.

Photo by Chris Paul

\$2 Million Warrant Article Proposed for Intersection

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

At the most recent Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, one of the agenda items was in regards to a proposed warrant article to make improvements to the Lowell Road and Birch Street intersection.

“The Town has been informed that the proposed project for the construction

of intersection improvements to the Lowell Road and Birch Street intersection did not make it onto the 10-year State Highway Plan,” Town Engineer Elvis Dhima wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen. “As 80 percent of the funding for this project was coming from a NHDOT Federal grant, the Town cannot afford to pay for the

project without the grant. Based on this information, the Board of Selectmen should withdraw Warrant Article “E” from the FY 2026 Warrant.”

It was explained by Dhima that they were recommending that they remove the warrant article.

The proposed warrant article states:

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Hudson Selectmen Hire New Town Administrator

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

After an extensive search, the town of Hudson has hired a new Town Administrator, following the retirement of longtime Town Administrator Steve Malizia earlier this year.

“We went through a couple of rounds of interviews, and we spent a good deal of time going through this process working with MRI and doing a thorough search,” Board of Selectmen Chair Bob Guessferd said.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved Roy E. Sorenson to the position during its Dec. 10 meeting.

Sorenson explained dur-



Roy Sorenson

ing the meeting that he has been in Salem for the last 20-years.

“I’m happy to be in front of you tonight and accept the position as the new Town Administrator,” Sorenson said.

Before coming to Hudson, Sorenson said he has

been working in public works for the past 20-years, eventually earning his masters degree in public administration.

“My career goal was to always get to this point and this opportunity presented itself which was unique,” he said.

He explained during the meeting that the position matches closely with what he has been doing for the last nine years as the municipal services director for Salem.

“Roy is currently serving as Municipal Services Manager for Salem NH, a position he has held for 9 years,” a press release from

continued on page 7

Residents Oppose Burns Hill Storage Facility Plan

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The December meeting of the Hudson Zoning Board of Adjustment was dominated by a crowded variance request hearing regarding four self-storage units totaling 18,950 square feet at 72 Burns Hill Road. Nashua attorney Colin Jean was at the meeting with Michael Granger of MJ Granger Engineering to make a presentation in favor of the variance request on behalf of the applicant, George Hurd.

“The applicant requests a variance for the purpose of erecting four storage units on the rear portion of the 24.8-acre property,” explained Jean. “The units would be serviced by a pri-

vate drive on the frontage with Burns Hill Road.”

He noted that when the property was purchased in July of 2021, it was partially zoned for General use, which allows for self-storage. According to Jean, the land was changed to a Residential zone barring any storage use last March, after the owner began “surveying engineering, and conceptual plans” for storage units.

“Basically, the proposed plan was well afoot before the change in the zoning,” said Jean. “The proposed variance would not be contrary to the public interest, because the portion of the property designated for use was historically in the ‘G’ zone and it at the very rear portion of the 24.8-acre por-

tion, secluded from any vantage point and any abutters or neighbors.”

The front half of the property was zoned for residential use and was never intended to include storage.

“With security lighting in the facility, it is going to be significant?” asked Board member Tristan Dion. “Will it be what we’re used to seeing?”

Granger stated there would be security lighting, and would avoid shining into any surrounding property.

“It’s all going to be fenced in,” said Granger.

At the request of Selectmen Liaison Dillon Dumont, ZBA Chair Gary Daddario reminded everyone that the Zoning Board only had the authority to

continued on page 4

Town Conducts Inspections of Musquash and Leslie Bockes

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Conservation Commission met on Dec. 9 to discuss LCIP/LCHIP Property inspection reports, a state requirement.

“Annually, we have to inspect two properties, one being Musquash Pond and the other being the Leslie Bockes tri-town forest on the Hudson side,” explained Conservation Chair Bill Collins. “We were doing it on a regular basis, the Commission was doing it for a number of years before Don Kirkland starting picking it up from the Engineering Office.”

The inspections involve walking through to ensure nobody is cutting down trees or littering in either location. It also checks trails and signs marking property boundaries.

“They like pictures, just to let them know that we’ve actually been out in the field, doing this,” said Collins. “It doesn’t hurt, even if it’s not the annual report, just to walk the property, sometimes off the trails. You never know what you’re going to find.”

Conservation Secretary Ken Dickinson added that at

least some trail work would be needed in the near future.

“It looked like in the pictures that trails were still there, but part of it needs to get trimmed back,” said Dickinson. “I’d put that on a maintenance list to take a walk over at some point.”

Conservation Vice-Chair Carl Murphy was with Collins last November to search for a viable stream crossing as part of a trail project connecting the Musquash to Gumpas Pond Conservation Areas.

“We identified two pos-

sible locations where we can cross over a bit of wetlands where we can cross over to the Gumpas Pond Conservation Area,” said Murphy. “One area was utilizing a beaver dam that seemed to be well established, it’s probably 20 feet of water crossing. The other water crossing we looked at was dry at the time Bill and I went out, that was a little more of a span, 150 to 175 feet.”

He said either connection was viable, something Collins agreed with.

“The Gumpas Pond Area is, I don’t know how

many acres, but there’s a lot of trails over there. It would be nice to have that connectivity,” said Murphy.

Members agree to reach out to the Pelham Conservation Commission to keep them up-to-date on the connection trail.

The Commission also reviewed its expenditure report to keep an eye on recent spending. So far, most expenditures went towards professional services like lake management and weed control in late summer and early fall.

“I walked out during the

Picnic on the Pond and everything had been cut back,” said Collins, who wanted to continue reviewing their spending periodically. “This is nice even if it’s quarterly or bi-annually, just to have an idea of what went out, especially for professional services.”

Herbicide was also used for long-term treatment of some weeds. Members promised to keep an eye on the growth of weeds like invasive Japanese knotweed and harmful poison ivy before next year’s treatment.

Off-Duty Hudson Firefighter Saves Life in Londonderry

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

Quick thinking and heroic teamwork helps to save the life of a man in Londonderry suffering from cardiac arrest.

According to a press release from Bruce Hallowell of the Londonderry Fire Department, on Tuesday,

Dec. 10, a life was saved thanks to the swift actions of Brian Clarenbach, an off-duty Hudson Firefighter and National Guard member, Cody Lewis, of Londonderry. Also aiding in the incident was access to an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and the response of Londonderry Fire Rescue.

“This remarkable event highlights the critical importance of community CPR training and public AED access.”

The report explained, “At approximately 8:57 p.m. on Dec. 10, Londonderry Fire Rescue was dispatched to Brazilian Top Team - Londonderry at 73

Rockingham Road, for a report of heart problems. While en-route, NH 911 updated responders that CPR was in progress. Upon arrival, crews found a male who had collapsed and was unresponsive.

Before emergency personnel arrived, trained bystanders on the scene,

including an off-duty Hudson Firefighter and National Guard member, initiated CPR and deployed an AED. The immediate use of these life-saving measures provided critical care during the crucial first minutes of the cardiac arrest.

When Londonderry Fire personnel arrived, they assumed patient care, providing advanced life support and stabilizing the patient for transport to a local hospital. The patient was successfully resuscitated within just seven minutes of going into cardiac arrest, a testament to the effectiveness of early intervention and teamwork.”

Hallowell added, “This extraordinary outcome underscores the life-saving

power of trained bystanders, accessible AEDs, and rapid emergency response. The collaborative efforts of everyone involved made all the difference in this situation. The Londonderry Fire Department encourages all residents to learn CPR and familiarize themselves with the locations and proper use of AEDs in their community. CPR training equips individuals with the knowledge and confidence to act swiftly in emergencies and save lives.”

For more information about CPR training opportunities or AED placement in our community, please contact Londonderry or Hudson Fire Rescue.

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Wright-Pierce Hired as the Target Project Inspector

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During the old business portion of the latest Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, one of the agenda items discussed was in regards to the contract for an inspector to be available for the ongoing Target Distribution Center project.

The question at the previous Board of Selectmen meeting was over whether or not they were required to have a full-time inspector as part of the development agreement between the Town and Target.

“At the Nov. 26, 2024 Board of Selectmen’s meeting, I put forth a motion to award the Inspector/Professional Engineering Bid Award to Wright-Pierce for the Target Distribution Center project,” Hudson Fire Chief Scott Tice wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen. “At that meeting, the Board tabled the motion as there were questions related to the requirements in the development agreement regarding the position being full-time.”

It was explained by Tice that he was able to find the

specific language from the development agreement.

It states the following as part of item number 27 of the development agreement:

“The Applicant shall pay for the cost of locating a construction trailer on the site (with appropriate HVAC, electrical, and other utilities) to support a work space for the Town of Hudson inspectional Service and Land Use Divisions. The Applicant shall also pay for the retention of inspector(s) solely for the purpose of inspecting the

construction and Project for the duration of the Project as reasonably agreed by the Applicant and Fire Chief. The inspectional services trailer shall be located on the site within 30 days after notice by the inspectional Services Division to the Applicant, but not later than the commencement of construction of the Main Building foundation, and remain on the site until the Certificate of Occupancy is issued or as otherwise agreed between the Applicant and Fire Chief.”

Tice explained that he

thinks that it clears up any misunderstanding about what Target is required to have or not in terms of inspections.

“This should clarify that there is not a specific requirement to have a full-time inspector,” Tice wrote.

But Tice also noted that they spoke to the company who said that they would be able to work up forty hours per week when needed.

“However, we have worked with Wright-Pierce and Target to ensure we will have coverage up to 40 hours per week if needed,”

Tice wrote. “The proposal submitted by Wright-Pierce has been updated to reflect this.”

Tice also reiterated during the meeting that the inspections are being paid for by Target.

“This is not being paid for by the Town, this is being paid for by Target,” Tice said during the meeting.

On a unanimous vote the Board of Selectmen approved the contract with Wright-Pierce to be the inspector on the project when needed.

Warrant

continued from page 1

Shall the Town of Hudson vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,005,000 for construction of intersection improvements? This project will be funded \$1,604,000 (80 percent) from NHDOT federal grant and \$401,000 from the Lowell Road Corridor Fund, Zone 1 and Zone 2.

This is a Special Warrant Article, per RSA 32:3 VI, reflecting an appropriation that will not lapse until the monies are expended, or June 30, 2030, whichever is the earliest. This appropriation is in addition to Article “A”, the Operating Budget.”

Board of Selectmen Vice Chair Dillon Dumont however, said that he thinks they should defer any action to January, or possibly even

keep it on as a warrant article, with the hope of possibly finding the funding somewhere else for the project, instead of receiving funds from the State.

Dumont also explained that by having it on the ballot, they would have a number of years to receive the funding, and that it would also be a good way to gauge the support in the Town.

The Board of Selectmen

agreed to defer any action for now on the proposed warrant article.

In other news, during the meeting, the Board of Selectmen approved different nominations for boards and committees.

One of the appointments was for Robert Larson who was looking to become a full time member on the Sustainability Committee. His position is set to

expire in April 2025.

Another appointment that the Board of Selectmen made during the meeting was for Gary Daddario, an incumbent member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) who was looking to re appointed to the Board. His term on the Board is now set to expire in December 2027.

Dumont who serves as the liaison for the ZBA said

he was supporting Daddario to be reappointed to the ZBA.

“Gary’s a valued member, he does a terrific job running the meetings, he’s very knowledgeable, he does his homework so very happy to see he re-applied,” Dumont said.

Selectman Kara Roy said she also agreed with the comments made by Dumont.

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Editorial

Peace on Earth Good Will Towards Man

Every year, in this issue, which comes out right before Christmas, we like to be light-hearted and full of good wishes. As always, we wish our readers the best during the holiday season. Looking back at a year full of meaningless death, hate, bullying, and the hard times many are going through, there is nothing brighter than the smile or hardy laugh of a child during this season to give us hope for a better world.

Children who look at the world with innocent eyes only see something wondrous and magical about to happen as we head into the brightest day of the year. They sing with their loudest voices and widest grins, they'll do their best to be good, for goodness' sake. They give us hope that mankind can do better and be better.

Young children at Christmas time are unaware of the world's evil; in their innocence, they remain immune to most of the evil, horrors, and misfortunes that are so apparent to the rest of us. We should take a cue from the young and try our best to lose ourselves in the magic and wonder of the season, and do our best to make their dreams and hopes a reality.

The happiest time of the year can also be the saddest or hardest time for many, so be of kind heart with

words and actions.

This week I got a few calls from residents who don't know me, but were concerned about my health and well-being. This business is very hard and thankless; you see more of the ugliness in the world than most. Yes, we see the good but less of it compared to the bad. Back to these calls, I think my heart grew three sizes to know that there are still good, caring people out there in the world.

We are reminded even more to cherish those we hold dear; not to take for granted our loved ones and our neighbors, and to celebrate the true spirit of the holidays. A spirit that is not about gifts, material goods, and feverish bouts of shopping, but centers on love and appreciation of those close to us.

Lend a hand where and when it's needed to spread the spirit of joy to those who will have trouble finding it; that's a blessing in itself. So, when the dark nature of news, events, or circumstances threatens to erode your holiday joy, stare into the eyes of a child, recall their smile, and let that fill your heart with hope.

Let the spirit of the season fill you with joy and love in your hearts, and work toward goodwill toward all.

THE Hudson Times

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Letters

Thank You from Hudson Fish and Game

To the editor,

The Hudson Fish and Game wants to give a big thank you to everyone involved in our Thanksgiving event that went off without any hitches.

We would like to thank our Thanksgiving Event Sponsors, as a result of their generosity, we were able to provide Thanksgiving Dinners to five surrounding communities; Hudson, Litchfield, Nashua, Pelham, and Tyngsboro.

Over 500 meals were cooked, packaged and delivered with approximately another 150 meals served in house. The extra food was delivered to a local food kitchen.

A special thank you goes out from us to all the many volunteers that gave

up their time before and during the holiday to help us make this happen.

Sponsors: Alvirne High Culinary Arts, Chef Bressler and Students, Alvirne WATS Club, Jessica Toomey and her students, Club National Inc. in Nashua, American Legion Post #48, in Hudson, VFW Post # 5791 in Hudson, Town of Hudson, Hudson Lions Club Charities Inc., Continental Paving, of Londonderry, Integra Biosciences, in Hudson, Nash Foundation Inc., 603 Manufacturing, in Hudson, Advanced Spa and Pools, in Hudson, Smith Farms, of Hudson, T-Bones, in Hudson, Jennings Excavations Inc. in Hollis, Audio East LLC. in North Chelmsford, High Line Group Motorsports, in Lowell, Billerica Auto Parts Co Inc., of Billerica, Lone Pine Hunter in Hollis, Jean-Guys

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We look forward to working with all of you next year.

Happy Holidays !
The Thanksgiving Committee
Michael Mitchell,
Chairman
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John Philbrick,
Vice Chairman

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Burns Hill

Continued from page 1

review the type of use for a property.

The meeting saw an unusually high public attendance, with extensive opposition to the variance request.

"Others in Hudson have listened to the population when it was asked to move it from 'G' to residential," said Gretchen Whiting of 22 Glen Dr. "It did get voted upon in March by the population and it did win, so I think that is the first and foremost, the most important thing. I think we need to just everyone to listen again."

As the property is near the old dump, she is also worried about possible groundwater infiltration if the project moves forward, something that would likely require digging.

"By putting this kind of structure in on Burns Hill, those on Glenn Drive would be adversely affected be-

cause of the disruption of the water table, and there would be a lot of extra water flowing downhill," she said.

Robinsons Smith of 48 Burns Hill Rd., agreed, noting that the old landfill "was never properly capped or lined."

"Contamination reports of public records go back to the 1990s, and neither the state nor the town have been able to remediate the ongoing contamination issue," he said. "This contamination along with the ongoing hazardous waste issues were fully disclosed to the property owners at the time of sale."

Smith also argued the property owner had plenty of time to move forward with the project before the zoning redesignation.

Monica Kiernan of 11 Wildwood Ter., argued that the neighborhood always had a residential character, even before the redesignation.

"Our neighborhood and

a commercial site are opposed to each other," she said. "If this is allowed to proceed, I do not feel like a 'good neighbor' policy will continue."

Mike Labonte 14 Glen Dr., openly questioned the applicant's assertion that the proposed use wouldn't diminish surrounding property values, claiming abutting residents "would be looking down on this commercial business constantly."

Over a dozen other residents made similar arguments against allowing any non-residential use into the area, many of whom wrote letters of opposition to the ZBA.

Among Board members, there was some concern over whether a denial of the variance would hold up in court if appealed. They tried to focus on the legal aspects of the presentation, eventually agreeing that the variance proposal failed to pass the hardship requirement, voting four-to-one to deny the request.

Santa Brings Joy to Children at American Legion Post 48



Santa Claus has been bringing joy to the children of local veterans for over 30-years at the Hudson American Legion Post 48. Early Sunday afternoon, Dec. 15, Santa, Mrs. Claus and one of his reindeer brought dozens of gifts to be given out to eager children at the annual Christmas Party. *Photos by Chris Paul*

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As Fees Decline, HCTV Looks for New Funding Sources

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Cable Utility Committee met on Dec. 12 to discuss the transition from the recently retired Jim McIntosh to Mike Johnson as the town's Director of Community Media.

"HCTV underwent some staffing changes at the end of September. Jim McIntosh has retired and we thank him for all his service to the town of Hudson," said Johnson. "Right now, HCTV is supporting one full-time director, a full-time produc-

tion coordinator, a full-time assistant, a part-time assistant, a part-time meeting/sports videographer, and two on-call staff members."

He described his department as "sufficiently staffed" to cover what it needed across Hudson.

"Things seem to be working well with the staffing transitions that took place," he said. "With the transition, I went to the Primex Supervisors Academy in November. This was to give me further management training, this helped me

fit more into the leadership position that I'm in now."

Johnson's visit to Primex was covered by the Cable Utility Committee.

Chair Mike O'Keefe also addressed concerns over diminishing cable franchise fee revenues, which has been an ongoing issue for some time.

"For a little background, all of the funding for HCTV comes from franchise fees that are collected by the town from cable subscribers within the town of Hudson," O'Keefe

explained. "The way this was set up is that 80 percent of those fees go into a revolving fund, and 20 percent goes to the town budget."

With streaming services gaining popularity, Hudson has seen fewer overall cable subscribers and a decline in revenue, even as inflation contributed to an increase in operating costs at HCTV.

"This is something that has been my number one priority since taking over as Director, it's the number one thing on my mind. This

is something that affecting all of us across the country in the public access industry," said Johnson. "In August of this year, we received \$87,365, in November of this year, we received \$86,273. If you look at last year's figures, in August we received \$93,457 and in November we received \$92,461."

Those numbers only represent the HCTV portion of the franchise fees. Johnson looked to offset some costs by asking their employees to adjust some of their hours while encouraging more volunteers, including getting help from students at Alvirne High School to cover schoolwide events in 2025. He indicated that a new model would be needed to maintain funding for the public access system.

"Another thing we've talked is a potential warrant article for HCTV to receive the 20 percent that the town receives back into our fund. This would help offset the cable cutting decrease that we're facing right now," said Johnson. "I'm open to any suggestions that anyone on the Committee has for further revenue generation."

Most budget money goes toward staff salaries, with some additional costs for equipment and routine building maintenance. There was also talk of presenting an annual budget to the town, rather than relying solely on their revolving fund and setting up a separate capital reserve fund. The idea of sponsorships was also raised, noting that full advertisements are not allowed on public-access television.

Hudson Teenager Threatens Teens, Mom Near Airport with a Machete

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

An 18-year-old Hudson man was arrested last week on four counts of criminal threatening with a deadly weapon after police say he used a machete during an argument near the Manchester Regional Airport.

According to a report by Lt. Garrett Malloy of the Londonderry Police Department, on Friday, Dec. 13, at approximately 11:15 p.m., the Londonderry Police Department responded to a report of Criminal Threatening with a weapon.

Officers determined that three juvenile females had been stopped in a vehicle on Planeview Drive when a

second vehicle approached. The occupants of the second vehicle allegedly shouted at the juveniles before leaving the area. The juveniles recognized the individuals due to an ongoing dispute between the parties.

One of the juveniles called her mother, who arrived at the scene. Shortly thereafter, the suspect vehicle returned, and the male driver exited the car, holding what appeared to be a machete. The suspect reportedly threatened the juveniles and the adult with the weapon.

The victims provided officers with a description of the suspect and the vehicle, including its registra-



Timothy Maghakian

tion number. A "Be On the Lookout" (BOLO) alert was issued to surrounding law enforcement agencies for 18-year-old Timothy Maghakian of Hudson.

According to the report, Maghakian was apprehend-

ed just over an hour later in Merrimack.

The report states, "At approximately 12:30 a.m., the Merrimack Police Department located the vehicle and took Maghakian into custody. He was arrested on four counts of Criminal Threatening with a Deadly Weapon. His vehicle was impounded, pending a search warrant. No injuries were reported in the incident.

Maghakian refused bail and was transported to the Rockingham County House of Corrections."

Maghakian was scheduled to appear in Derry District Court on Monday, Dec. 16.

OBITUARY

Steve Applewhite



Steve Applewhite was born in Little Rock, Arkansas to Dorothy (Grissom) Marshall and the late Clarence Applewhite. He passed away on Dec. 10, 2024 at the age of 69 in NH.

He grew up the oldest of three children, followed by a fourth half-brother in the early 1970s. He started his professional career out of

high school working as a security guard and then ambulance driver. However, he found his calling at electronics school. He had a deep interest in technology and how things worked for his entire life, and was extremely smart and knowledgeable. Over the years, he has fixed, engineered or built nearly anything you could think of.

Steve was a loyal employee of Texas Instruments, which was later bought out by Raytheon, for more than 30 years. He worked long late shifts examining circuit boards for defects, and was indispensable. His work took him from Arkansas to Texas to New England.

He married his wife in 1978 and they had a daughter in 1989. Steve was a wonderful family man and was proud and overjoyed to welcome a grandson in 2017, the light of his life. While reminiscing about him, friends and coworkers describe him as genuinely nice, kind, a great guy, and a good friend.

Steve was creative, resourceful, and most of all, giving. He always made sure his family had anything they could need or want. He volunteered his time, made frequent donations to charity, and was the first to give to a fundraiser or people in need. His generous spirit will be sorely missed.

He was saved at a young age and remained a Christian his entire life despite being unable to attend church in his later years. Steve's family is reassured by the faith that he is in Heaven and no longer suffering from numerous, long-lasting health issues.

Steve is survived by his devoted wife of 46 years, Marilyn, daughter Sherrie Coutu, son-in-law Chris Coutu and beloved only grandson, Charlie Coutu. He is also survived by his mother Dorothy Marshall, step-father Johnny Marshall, Jr., sister Lesa (Paul) Gann, brother Brent (Cindy) Applewhite, and brother Johnny Marshall III, as well as nieces Bethany and Hanna, and their families.

A Graveside Service was held on Monday, Dec. 16 in St. Patrick Cemetery, 102 Derry Rd., Hudson. To share an online message of condolence, please visit www.dumontsullivan.com. The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.



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Selectmen Approves Contract For Firefighter Physicals

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen were presented with a proposal during its most recent meeting to award a contract for the firefighter physicals.

Hudson Fire Chief Scott Tice explained that the Board of Selectmen previously rejected the one bid they received, primarily due to it not meeting all the criterias they had as part of the bid.

He said this time they once again only received one bid.

“Again we got one bid,” Tice said.

In a memo to the Board of Selectmen Tice said that

the “Hudson Fire Department has been working on a formal bidding process for our Occupational Physicals and Screenings Program as part of our Assistance to Firefighters Grant Award.”

“At the Nov. 12, 2024 SOS meeting, the Board authorized the re-solicitation of the request for proposal (RFP) as the sole bid that was received on the initial solicitation was over budget and missing some of the items specified within the RFP,” Tice wrote in the memo.

Tice explained that this time, the bid came within the budget, and it has everything they are looking for

now.

“After reviewing the bid, LifeScan meets the specifications as set forth in the RFP and is within budget,” Tice wrote in the memo. “AFG funding for this portion of the program totals \$94,896.00 with \$86,269.09 federally funded and \$8626.91 funded within our operational budget.”

The Board of Selectmen approved the proposal during the meeting.

In other news the Board of Selectmen heard a proposal to hire a company for the engineering services for the Clean Water Asset Management Program

Grant.

“The town of Hudson was selected by NH Department of Environmental Services for up to \$30,000 grant related to clean water asset management grant, which can be utilized for our drainage infrastructure,” Town Engineer Elvis Dhima wrote in a memo.

He explained that they received three proposals and “VHB scored the highest from the review committee, consisting of Public Works Director, Civil Engineer and Town Engineer. A scope of work and fee was developed and approved by

the state.”

“Our recommendation is to hire the consultant that scored the highest, VHB, Inc,” Dhima said.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved hiring VHB.

During liaison reports, Selectman David Morin noted that there were two people leaving the Conservation Commission.

“Unfortunately chairman Bill Collins said he is stepping down,” Morin said.

Morin noted that he served on the conservation commission as chair for many years, and served on

the commission for a total of 10 years.

“He’s a big loss,” Morin said.

Morin also noted that Brian Pinsonneault is leaving the commission.

“He is all done so we are going to be two members down on that committee,” Morin said.

Morin said that both of them did a lot of work while they were on the conservation commission.

“I thank them both for their work,” Morin said.

The next Selectmen meeting is slated to take place on Jan. 14 at 7 p.m.

Administrator

Continued from page 1

the Town of Hudson read. “Prior to that, Roy served as Public Works Director for Bedford, MA, and Street Department Supervisor for Nashua.

Roy holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Massachusetts-

Lowell and a Master of Public Administration from the University of NH.”

During the meeting, Sorenson thanked his family who were in attendance including his son Jackson, who works as a Londonderry Firefighter.

“I think the process I went through to this point

was very comfortable, it felt like it was an ideal situation to take this step,”

Sorenson said he wants to get to know the staff and the community, and learn what he can from Malizia before he officially leaves.

“Welcome on board Roy we’re thrilled to have you on board,” Guessferd said.

Sorenson is set to take over the Town Administrator role on Feb. 10.

Nutfield Publishing Will Not Be Publishing on Jan. 2, 2025

In lieu of the upcoming holidays, Nutfield Publishing will not be printing a newspaper on Jan. 2. The staff uses this time each year to take a short break to celebrate the holiday. Our next paper will be produced on Thursday, Jan. 9. We thank our readers and wish you a happy and safe new year.

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Community Gathers for Wreaths Across America Ceremony



The National Wreaths Across America Day took place in Hudson at the Hills House on Saturday, Dec. 14. The Hudson Memorial VFW Post 5791 and Auxiliary are the official sponsor of the event and Christina Madden headed up the effort in purchasing nearly 400 wreaths to be placed at the graves of local veterans. The volunteers of this annual event have been participating in Wreath Day since 2019. The ceremony included the solemn presentation of Ceremonial Wreaths for each of the armed services, the Merchant Marine, and POW/MIA. In Hudson, two additional wreaths are presented by the Knights of Columbus for the several hundred veterans buried in St. Partick's and Holy Cross Cemeteries where wreath laying is not allowed.

After the ceremony, volunteers embarked on laying the wreaths eight participating cemeteries,

This year's theme is to "Live with Purpose," inspired by the volunteers who lead impactful work in their communities. In 2007, The Wreaths Across America non-profit group was founded in 2007.

Photos by Chris Paul



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HUDSON SPORTS

Bronco Boys Get By Crusaders 59-45 in Home Opener



Senior guard Sam Dewitt had 12-points in the home-opener against Machester Memorial.

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Boys' Basketball team had a good start to their winter season, winning 59-45 over Manchester Memorial.

The Broncos took on the Crusaders at home on Friday night, Dec. 13, and after getting off to a slow start, came away with the 14-point victory.

The Broncos finished the 2024 regular season at 9-9, which was good enough for the tenth seed in the Division I Playoffs, making it into the playoffs for the seventh time in the previous eight years.

In the state championship, Alvirne went 1-1, and were bounced by the tough Bedford Bulldogs in

the quarterfinals.

The AHS squad is looking for another good season, and a 1-0 start is certainly a step in the right direction.

In the Friday night home-opener, the pace was slow to start with just one-point scored by the 6:40 mark and the second basket going in three-minutes into the game.

With three minutes off the clock, the Broncos had an early 3-0 lead, but that slim advantage vanished by the end of the first quarter, when Manchester took a 10-7 lead heading to the second period.

In the second period the Hudson offense stepped it up with 23-points and the defense kept Memorial away from hitting shots leaving them with just six points in the quarter.

Leading 30-16 at the half, the Broncos needed to just keep pace with their opponents in the second half, which, propelled by their home crowd, they maintain a constant lead for the victory.

Alvirne scored 12-points in the third quarter to Manchester's nine, but then fell behind in scoring in the



Broncos junior forward Garrett Hall led his team in scoring against the Crusaders in the team's home-opener on Friday night. *Photos by Chris Paul*

final period 17-20.

Junior forward Garrett Hall had 20-points for the Broncos, getting one three-pointer and working hard under the basket for seven

baskets and three free-throws.

Senior guard Sam Dewitt scored 12-points in the game with one three-

continued on page 12

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Bronco Girls Get 32-Point Win in Manchester Opener

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Girls' Basketball team traveled to Manchester Memorial High School to start their season and crushed the Crusaders by a score of 73-41.

The Lady Broncos outscored their opponents in all but one quarter on Friday night, Dec. 13, and kept Memorial to just 13-points in the first half for the win.

The Alvirne girls finished the 2024 regular season at 9-9, and went into the Division I Playoffs as the eleventh seed, winning their first round game against Goffstown, but falling in the quarterfinals to the Lancers in Londonderry.

In the game on Friday night, the Broncos came out strong, busting out an 18-8 lead over their opponents. They continued the momentum in the second period, outscoring Manchester 17-5 to take a 35-13 lead into the halftime break.

Memorial bounced back a bit to start the second half, getting 18-points with AHS scoring 17-points for a 52-31 Broncos lead.

In the final period the Alvirne girls scored 20 and held MMHS to just ten for the 32-point victory.

Senior captain Ella Hartson led her team in scoring with 19-points, including one three-pointer.

Junior Lexi Floyd put up 17-points in the win, with four three-pointers, a bucket

and two successful foul shots.

Sophomore Courtney Anderson finished with 12-points, including two three-pointers two free throws and two baskets.

Juniors Julia Adams and Haylie Christman both chalked up nine-points in the game, with both girls getting four baskets and a free-throw.

Junior Taylor Small had four-points and senior Co-Captain Avery Willard finished with two-points.

Other members of the team include, juniors Alana Tardiff, Julia Adams and Natalie Cloutier; freshman members are Bella Girginis and Isabella Haven-Tate.

Alvirne head coach, Frank Girginis, said after

the game, "It was a good start to the season and proud of the girls for a good start and for overcoming some serious foul trouble. We have a long season ahead of us with two very

tough games this week."

The Alvirne girls will play two more games before the holiday break.

On Tuesday, Dec. 17, the Lady Broncos were scheduled to play the Goffs-

town Grizzlies for their seasons home-opener.

On Thursday night, Dec. 19, the Alvirne will take on the Keene Blackbirds at home starting at 6:30 p.m.



The Lady Broncos tipped off their season with a 73-41 victory over the Manchester Memorial Crusaders on Friday night. *Courtesy photo*

Boys

Continued from page 9
pointer.

Another senior guard, Evan Bettencourt, finished the game with nine-points, including one three-pointer.

Senior center, Andrew Deely had a seven-point game; and seniors Gabe

Conrow and Alex Valenzuela both finished with four-points.

Other players on this year's roster include: junior Sean Chipfunde; senior Charlie Crawford; junior Jacoby Durham; junior Luke Norse; senior Sean Mendes; senior Garrett Howard; junior Carsen

Mills; and senior Ryan Rocheleau.

The Bronco boys will close out 2024 with two games this week. They traveled to Goffstown on Monday night to play the Grizzlies followed by a trip to Keene High School on Thursday night to play the Blackbirds.

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PMA Holds Santa Drive



Presentation of Mary Academy celebrated its annual Santa Toy Drive last week on Tuesday, Dec. 10. Hudson Selectman, David Morin, dedicated his time as Santa. He was accompanied by Steve Phillips, alumni parent, Nashua firefighter, and 2024 VFW Post 483

Loyalty Day Firefighter of the Year, who coordinated the day for the students and the recipients of our toy drive. The school collected more than 500 toys for children of all ages to be distributed to community families and agencies in need. *Courtesy photo*

St. Nic Travels Through Hudson



Santa made his annual drive through the neighborhoods in Hudson on Sunday afternoon accompanied by a fire truck and a police escort. *Photo by Chris Paul*

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AROUND TOWN

Around Town Policy: This section is meant to be used to announce free events to the communities. All Around Town/Calendar Items will be held to 100 words maximum. All free announcements in the Around Town/Calendar section can run a maximum of three weeks. The deadline for a submission is each Monday at 5 p.m. Please send items to hudsontimes@nutpub.net.

Annual Tree Burn

All are welcome on Friday Jan. 3 with a rain date on the Jan. 4, to Estey's Country Store in Londonderry on RT 102 for their 4th Annual Tree Burn from 6 p.m. until... Friends, customers, bring a tree or just stop by for a bonfire, s'mores, Hot Chocolate, and good company.

Dungeons & Donuts

Looking for fellow Dungeons & Dragons players? Come and grab a donut and play

at the Rodgers Library on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 9:30 a.m.

Overeaters Anonymous

Is food a problem for you? Do you eat when you are not hungry? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? Overeaters Anonymous, no dues, no fees, no weigh-ins no diets. Meetings are on Tuesday's from 9 - 10 a.m., at St. Elizabeth Seton Church 190 Meetinghouse Rd., Bedford, use the rear doors for access to the meeting room in the

church basement. Contact Pat At 603-289-8476 Or Jane At 603-674-6540 With Any Questions (Not Affiliated With Any Private Or Public Organization)

Preschool Water Play

On Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Preschoolers ages 2-5 are invited to play with water tables and toys on the Rodgers library lawn.

Brunch Bunch

On Fridays at 11 a.m., Eat pancakes and talk about

books you love or hate at Rodgers Library. For students entering 5th-12th grades. Those attending will be divided by age (Tween 10-13 and Teen 13-18) if the group is large enough.

day afternoon. Slider cards will start being sold at 1:15 p.m., \$1.25 each. You must be registered at the Senior Center to play.

Drop In Stitches

Come to the Rodgers Memorial Library every Friday at 9:15 a.m. for this craft group. If you love to craft, whether it be quilting, knitting, crocheting, rug making or plastic canvas, you will LOVE this group! If you're starting a new skill or brushing up on an old one or even if you just like to chat while pretending to work, this is a judgment free zone.

PFOA Water Test

You can request a water sampling here: Southern NH PFOA Investigation Private Well-Testing Request Form Survey (surveymonkey.com) Questions contact Amy Rou-

sseau | PFAS Response Administrator - MtBE Remediation Bureau at NH Department of Environmental Services Email: Amy.Rousseau@des.nh.gov, Phone: 603.271.8801

A Good Yarn

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., (except Dec. 24) come to the Rodger Library to Share tips, tricks, and stories while you work on your latest project and connect with fellow fiber enthusiasts. Bring your own supplies and stitch the evening away.

Laptop Donation Program

United Way of Greater Nashua is reintroducing their Tech Connect United Laptop Donation Program. Donate your working laptops, tablets, and smartphones, and they will in turn refurbish

continued on page 14

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Around Town

Continued from page 13
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Eversource Default Service Customers Expected to See Decrease in Supply Rate

With colder weather now in New Hampshire amidst continuing volatility in the energy market, Eversource Default Service Rate electric customers can expect to pay a 14% lower supply price compared to their current rate. The energy company yesterday filed a new electric supply rate with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (PUC) that, if approved, would take effect from February 1 through July 31, 2025. Eversource does not generate electricity and is required to purchase power on behalf of customers who take the Default Service Rate, and those costs are passed on with no markup or profit to the company.

“A lower price for energy is certainly good news for customers, and we’re pleased that we were able to

secure a lower supply rate with power generators,” said Eversource Executive Vice President of Customer Experience and Energy Strategy Penni Conner. “This change will not apply to customers enrolled with a community power program or alternative supplier, but we want to remind all our customers that we still have payment assistance programs and cost-effective energy efficiency resources available to help them manage their bills and energy use.”

If approved by the PUC, the Default Service Rate for residential customers in New Hampshire would change from the current 10.4 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) to 8.9 cents per kWh. Combined with other slight adjustments on the delivery side of the bill expected to also take effect on February

1, Eversource customers signed up for Default Service and using an average of 600 kWh per month will see an overall decrease of approximately \$9, or 6%, on their total bill compared to their current bill. The supply rate changes twice a year – February 1 and August 1.

This change only affects customers receiving energy supply through Eversource’s Energy Service Rate and not those who receive their energy supply through a community power program or an alternative supplier. The energy company encourages all customers to compare the Energy Service Rate with other available rates to choose the option that works best for them. Customers can learn more about supplier options and what to consider before

switching on the Department of Energy’s website www.energy.nh.gov/consumers/choosing-energy-supplier.

Help is available for customers who need it Eversource encourages customers to enroll in one of the company’s payment plans or assistance programs if they need help with their energy bill.

The New Start Program can help income-eligible customers reduce or eliminate their outstanding balance in as little as 12 months when they make on-time monthly payments and

Eversource will make up the difference by eliminating or forgiving a portion of the total balance enrolled in the program – reducing the amount owed each month.

Customers that meet certain household income guidelines may qualify for a Discount Rate on their monthly bill through the Electric Assistance Program.

Flexible Payment Plans are available to all customers, regardless of income, to pay their past-due balance over a period of time.

Budget Billing Plans are

also available and can help customers avoid seasonal spikes on their energy bill by paying a fixed amount each month based on their average annual usage.

Regardless of financial need, customers are eligible for various payment programs and are urged to call Eversource at 800-662-7764 or visit Eversource.com/winter-bill for more information about the variety of programs the energy company offers to connect customers with assistance, help use less energy and manage energy costs.

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