

THE Hudson Times

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A FREE Weekly Publication



FALLING ICE

The historic-style Melendy Pond Bridge, a 22-foot covered foot bridge off Melendy Road made a very picturesque photo with the water traveling under the bridge creating a ice covered waterfall due to the recent below-freezing temperatures the area has been experiencing. The bridge serves as a scenic, old-world landmark in the area.

Photo by Chris Paul

Hudson Renews Solar Exemption as Lawmakers Weigh Possible Repeal

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen voted unanimously at its most recent meeting to readopt the Town's solar property tax exemption ordinance, reaffirming local support for renewable energy incentives

even as state lawmakers consider legislation that could eliminate such exemptions statewide.

Chief Assessor Jim Michaud explained that the Town must periodically reauthorize the exemption to keep it in effect. The ordinance allows qualifying

homeowners to exempt up to \$20,000 of the assessed value of solar energy equipment installed on their property.

"In accordance with RSA 41:14b, the Hudson Board of Selectmen readopt the provisions of RSA

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Voters Reject a Proposed \$1M Reduction to Operating Budget

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

Hudson voters gathered at the Community Center on Saturday morning, Jan. 31, for the annual Town Deliberative Session, where one of the most debated items was on the proposed FY2027 operating budget.

According to background information provided by the Town of Hudson, the community operates under the SB2 form of government, meaning voters will see two numbers on the ballot: the operating budget recommended by the Budget Committee and the default budget, which cannot be amended. If the operating budget fails in March, the default budget automatically takes effect.

The background also noted that Police, Fire, and Public Works account for roughly 72 percent of the FY2027 General Fund operating budget. Additionally, the Town portion of the tax bill represents about 32 percent of a resident's total property tax bill, with the remainder going to local education (54 percent), the state education tax (seven percent), and county tax (seven percent).

Budget Committee Chair James Lawrence III told voters that the Committee voted 9-1 to support the proposed operating budget, while the Board of Selectmen voted 5-0 in favor.

Lawrence explained that the Selectmen originally sent the Budget Committee

a proposed operating budget of \$42,080,176, based on a directive limiting increases to no more than 2.5 percent over last year's approved budget – excluding contracts, salaries, benefits, and utilities. Other items were either incorporated into the operating budget or placed on separate warrant articles.

He said the Budget Committee ultimately reduced the proposal by \$431,000, resulting in the budget presented at Deliberative Session.

During the meeting, resident Peggy Huard proposed an amendment to reduce the operating budget by \$1 million. She said she reviewed various line items

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Town Officials Temporarily Close the Benson Dog Park

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen voted unanimously at its most recent meeting to temporarily close the Hudson Dog Park while the Town sorts out questions surrounding maintenance, liability, and longterm responsibility for the facility.

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson introduced the discussion in a memo, noting that Selectman Heidi Jakoby had requested an agenda item related to Benson Park and recent issues raised at both Benson Park Advisory Committee meetings and Board of Selectmen meetings.

Jakoby, who serves as

the liaison to the Benson Park Advisory Committee, said she, Sorenson, and Director of Development Services Elvis Dhima met to review several concerns, including the status and upkeep of the dog park.

She explained that research into the park's history revealed that it was originally leased to a nonprofit organization, which assumed responsibility for insurance, liability, and maintenance. The nonprofit also raised funds and installed the fencing, with approval from the Board of Selectmen at the time.

However, Jakoby said the nonprofit has since dissolved, and there is no record of any formal trans-

fer of responsibility back to the Town.

"That was the main concern years ago, what happens if the nonprofit goes away?" Jakoby said. "The Town isn't in the business of being in charge of a dog park."

She noted that questions have surfaced in recent months about why the Department of Public Works was not handling tasks such as mowing or leaf removal, responsibilities the Town never agreed to take on. In the absence of the nonprofit, volunteers have stepped in to help maintain the space, but Jakoby said that is not a sustainable longterm solution.

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Voters To Make Decision on Proposed Default Budget Changes

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

One of the citizen petition warrant articles appearing on this year's ballot in Hudson asks voters whether the authority to determine the Default Budget should be delegated to the Budget Committee for both the Town and the School District.

Under Hudson's SB2 form of government, every proposed operating budget must be paired with a Default Budget. The Default Budget is based on the current year's budget and can only be adjusted for contractual obligations, debt payments, legally mandated

increases, and the removal of onetime expenses. No new programs or staffing can be added. If voters reject the proposed operating budget in March, the Default Budget automatically becomes the budget for the next fiscal year.

The Board of Selectmen previously voted on whether to recommend the petition article and split 3-2, with Selectmen Heidi Jakoby and Xen Vurgaropoulos supporting the change. Chair Dillon Dumont opposed it.

"I think the Budget Committee, in controlling both of these articles, can possibly be a little self-serving," Dumont said during

the meeting.

The School Board was also presented with the same petition for the School District's Default Budget. During an earlier meeting, members questioned what the practical impact would be if the Budget Committee, rather than the district, calculated the Default Budget.

Superintendent Dan Moulis said his understanding was that the change would shift decisionmaking authority over what is included in the Default Budget and "what is calculated in that formula."

At a previous meeting, the Budget Committee de-

termined that because the petition article carries no monetary appropriation, the Committee is not required to make a recommendation on it.

Budget Committee member Shawn Jasper offered historical context, noting that Hudson adopted Senate Bill 2 many years ago, which created the Default Budget system. He recalled that, in earlier years, the Default Budget and the proposed operating budget were "worlds apart," and that the system was intentionally designed to make operating under a Default Budget difficult, encouraging collaboration

to reach a reasonable proposed budget.

Jasper said that in more recent years, the Default Budget has sometimes come in higher than the proposed operating budget, despite the law offering "virtually no way" for that to occur if calculated strictly.

He added that there is no enforcement mechanism to ensure the Default Budget is calculated as intended.

According to Jasper, the original purpose of the Default Budget law was to force communities to make decisions within that budget, including, in some cases,

reducing staffing or scaling back services, if voters rejected the proposed budget.

While he said he does not like seeing Default Budgets pass and voted to recommend the proposed operating budget, Jasper believes it makes sense for the Budget Committee to be responsible for preparing the Default Budget.

Budget Committee member Kim Rice previously stated she was "wholeheartedly" in support of the petition.

As a citizen petition, the warrant article automatically advances to the ballot for voters to decide.

Conservation Commission Proposes Chestnut Tree Planting Program

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Conservation Commission met on Jan. 12 to discuss a possible shade tree planting program for 2026.

"I'm in favor if we can do something with trees," said Commissioner John Walter. "That can be shade trees, or just promoting more trees planted in town if we can contribute to that, help with that, or sponsor some kind of thing where we have a community service to talk about having trees. I think that would be a good thing."

Vice-Chair Ken Dickinson suggested using an earlier project as a model.

"It would dovetail on what was done over at Benson Park with the next chestnut tree variety. They planted maybe half a dozen of them over at Benson Park, and we could definitely plant some of them over at the other properties at the right locations," Dickinson said. "There's someone at my school, the College of Environmental Science in Syracuse, where I graduated, who developed a hybrid, and I know someone I think is still associat-

ed with the university."

Chair Carl Murphy offered to reach out to Tom Rush Forest, a chestnut nursery, for varieties that would grow well in Hudson.

"We can plant some saplings from the nursery onto our properties in the hopes that we can have some success, at least as much success as they had at Benson Park," Dickinson added. "They don't grow that fast, it might take 20 years for them to be 20 feet tall."

Secretary Chris Cameron noted that trees with

such a long growth period would not serve as shade trees in the short term.

"It can be other trees too," Murphy said. "It doesn't have to just be chestnut trees."

Blightresistant elm trees were also mentioned, though the Commission's main interest appeared to be establishing a chestnut grove on conservation land. "People like the chestnut tree because it's got a big leaf," Dickinson explained.

The Commission also continued discussing plans for the Trolley Bed Trail,

which would run from Raymond Park and exit onto Gibson Road. The project has been in development with the Town of Pelham since last March.

"I did walk out there last week, and I walked the section that's located in Pelham. They did a good job, they took away the debris off the trolley bed and kind of made it whole. It looks really nice," Murphy said. "Our section of the trolley bed, the part that's in Hudson, is a little more disastrous."

Approximately 600 feet of the trail will be located

within Hudson. No timeline has been set for completion.

Murphy also noted that the Commission is seeking to fill two open alternate positions.

"I believe it's all on the town's website," he said, encouraging interested residents to apply. He added that many boards and commissions in Hudson are looking to fill vacancies.

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room at Town Hall.

American Legion Hudson Post 48

HOSTS A

VALENTINES DAY DINNER AND DANCE

Saturday, Feb. 14 from 5 to 11 p.m.

Dinner will be served from 5 - 7 p.m., followed by DJ Mike from 7 - 11 p.m., at American Legion Hudson Post 48

37 Central Street, Hudson NH.

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School Deliberative Session

The School Deliberative Session is scheduled to take place on Saturday, Feb. 7, starting at 9 a.m. at the Hudson Community Center, 12 Lions Avenue. In case of weather emergency the alternative date will be on Monday, Feb. 9 at the same location.

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Aging Equipment Prompts HCTV to Seek 2026 Tech Upgrades

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The January meeting of the Hudson Cable Utility Advisory Committee included early planning for 2026, with several out-of-budget requests for upgraded equipment, most notably a new video production system.

"Some of our video switchers are starting to age out," said Director of Community Media Mike Johnson. "We'd like to keep things with Vizrt, and its TriCaster TC410 Plus seemed to meet our needs. That was approved by the Selectmen."

A request for new camera equipment, however,

did not receive approval.

"The camera is a wait-and-see," Johnson said. "It's something we're going to need at some point, but we can survive another year without it if we have to."

Other upgrades, including new speakers and a wireless video transmitter, were funded through the standard budget. HCTV also plans to install a dedicated fiber system in the gymnasium at Alvirne High School.

"This is absolutely huge for us," Johnson explained. "We go to events and sometimes when you're relying on the school's network, you can get firewalled out, it can be anything. Now

we're relying on our network, we know what's there, so we'll have a smoother transmission. It's going to make our life a lot easier."

Sports broadcasts from Alvirne, especially basketball and football, remain among HCTV's most-watched streams.

Beyond streaming upgrades, the Committee discussed improving meetingroom equipment in 2026 and the possible removal of older equipment from the Hills Library building.

"Right now, we're doing the big debate on who owns it, and who's doing what with it, and

we're still doing research on our side," said Selectmen Liaison Xen Vurgaropoulos, noting that the building is still used for some meetings.

Committee member Len Segal said there had been confusion about the building's future.

"The rumor amongst the members of the Friends of the Library was that they were going to close the building, mothball it," Segal said. "Subsequent to that, different committees have been meeting there. The Friends can't meet there, nothing to do with the library, but other government officers are meeting there."

HCTV must maintain equipment in every meeting room in order to record town meetings, regardless of where they are held.

Branding improvements are also under consideration for the coming year. One idea is to drop "television" from the Hudson Community Television name to better reflect the station's shift toward online streaming.

"We need to decide whether we want to switch to Hudson Community Media (HCM)," Johnson said. "We've talked about that in the past to stay with the current times. That does involve changing signage and some of our end

bumpers, so that is a good bit of work and we can't do it overnight. That's something we might potentially look at later in the year or next year."

Several committee members supported the idea.

"It makes more sense," said Committee Chair Mike O'Keefe. "It also helps so people don't think it's just cable TV, because everything we do on cable is on the Internet. You've got stuff on Facebook, Instagram, etc. We've got to get people out of the mode of thinking that it's strictly cable TV, especially as people are abandoning cable TV."

Solar

Continued from page 1

72:6164 inclusively," the ordinance states. These statutes give municipalities

the option to reduce the taxable value of homes equipped with solar energy systems used onsite, helping offset the upfront cost of installation.

The exemption has

been in place for years, but its future has been clouded by proposed state legislation. At a previous meeting, residents and officials discussed House Bill 1002, which would eliminate all local solar property tax exemptions across New Hampshire.

"We are faced with House Bill 1002, which, if enacted by the state legislature, would eliminate the solar property tax exemptions statewide, so much for local control and decisionmaking," resident Craig Putnam said during public input. He noted that the bill had only recently been introduced and was still early in the legislative process.

Putnam explained that the bill would move through

committee hearings, potential amendments, and votes in both the House and Senate, with the legislative session likely running into June. Until then, he said, municipalities will not know whether their local decisions will ultimately stand.

"So, at this point, we don't know whether any local decision by the Hudson BOS will be overridden or not, and we may not know for a while," Putnam said. He urged the Board to maintain the \$20,000 cap regardless of the uncertainty, arguing that the exemption remains an important tool for residents investing in renewable energy.

His comments prompted a broader discussion

among Selectmen about whether the Town should formally oppose the bill. Board Chair Dillon Dumont, who also serves as a State Representative, abstained from participating in the vote to avoid a conflict of interest.

The remaining Selectmen voted 4-0-1 to send a letter to Hudson's legislative delegation expressing the Board's opposition to HB 1002 and urging lawmakers to preserve local authority over solar exemptions.

At the most recent meeting, Michaud reiterated

ed that the bill is still working its way through the process.

"We're still in the third inning, maybe, of where this legislation will go," he said, noting that the Town should continue to operate under current law until the Legislature makes a final decision.

By readopting the exemption now, the Board ensures that Hudson residents installing solar systems will continue to receive the benefit for at least the upcoming tax year, unless the state ultimately intervenes.

OBITUARY

John F. Considine



John F. Considine, 66, of Hudson, NH, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026. John was born on Jan. 28, 1959, in Dorchester, MA. He was the beloved son of Frances (Daley) Considine of Townsend, MA, and the late John J. Considine.

John was the devoted husband of Tammy (Tack) Considine of Hudson. This coming April, they would have celebrated 20 years of marriage. Together they built a home filled with love, laughter, and open doors to anyone in need.

For the past nine years, John worked as an electrician at the VA Hospital in Bedford, MA. A proud veteran, John was known for his strong work ethic, reliability, and willingness to help others in any way he could.

In the summer months, you could always find "Jack" behind the grill, feeding friends, family, and anyone who happened to stop by. His heart and his home were always open. He was the man everyone called when something needed fixing - because there wasn't much he couldn't fix. John had a way of finding solutions, making light of difficult situations, and lifting others up with his steady presence and kind spirit.

In addition to his beloved wife Tammy and his devoted mother Frances, John was a proud and loving father to Angela, Charity, Jack, Shannon, Tyler, Ryan, and Katie. He was a devoted grandfather to seven grandchildren and a cherished great-grandfather to Kehlan. He was a loving brother to Bill, Lauren, Dan, Tracey, Colleen, and Christopher, and a beloved uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Above all, John was a proud veteran, husband, father, Papa, and great-grandfather. He was always there for anyone who needed help, always happy to lend a hand, and always willing to give of himself. He was the hardest-working, toughest, and most caring man - truly the greatest man to walk this earth and one of the biggest blessings in the lives of all who knew him. He will be deeply and forever missed.

A time of visitation was held on Friday, Jan. 30, at the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, Jan. 31, at St. Kathryn Church. Burial will take place at a later date at the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen, NH.

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Editorial

As Elections Begin, Respect Must Lead the Way

As we head into another election season, I find myself coming back to the same core truths I was raised on: be respectful, question everything, and fight for what you believe in. Loyalty, honor, integrity, and your word; that's all any of us truly have. I try every day to live by those values. Some days I succeed. Some days I wonder why I bother.

Because let's be honest: it's getting harder to watch the liars, the haters, and the greedy climb their ladders while good people step back, stay quiet, or simply give up. It wears on you. It makes you question the point of fighting for what's right when the loudest voices seem to be the ones tearing others down. But this isn't about money or power. It's about the greater good in mankind and whether we still believe in it.

That brings me to respect. We throw that word around, but do we really understand it? Respect isn't blind agreement. It isn't silence. It isn't pretending someone is right when they're not. Respect is recognizing the basic worth of another human being, even when you disagree with them, and expecting the same in return.

Respect also means listening. Not to respond, not to attack, but to understand. We won't agree on every issue. We shouldn't. Democracy depends on

disagreement. But we owe each other the space to speak without being shouted down or smeared. We owe each other the decency of hearing one another out.

And here's the part people forget: respect is not onesizefitsall. Everyone deserves a baseline level of courtesy. But deeper respect, the kind that carries weight, is earned. A person who is honest, consistent, and willing to stand up for what's right deserves more respect than someone who lies, manipulates, or tears others apart for sport. That's just common sense.

As voters, we need to remember that. We need to stop rewarding bad behavior. Stop giving our time, our attention, and our trust to people who haven't earned it. Stop letting the loudest voices drown out the honest ones. Respect yourself enough to expect better, from your leaders, your neighbors, and yes, from yourself.

Elections aren't just about ballots. They're about who we choose to be as a community. Do we lift up the people who work hard, tell the truth, and show up for others? Or do we hand the reins to those who thrive on division?

I know what side I'm on. I hope you do too.

Because respect, real respect, is one of the most noble things we have left. And it's worth fighting for.

Library Launches Reading Challenge, For the United State's 250th Birthday

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

Library Director Linda Pilla and her staff are preparing for what they hope will be an eventful 2026, according to updates shared at the latest meeting of the Rodgers Memorial Library Board of Trustees.

"It's 2026 - this is the year of the 250th celebration of the Declaration of Independence," Pilla said. "We're going to be having some amazing programming coming up this year, along with a birthday party, because it's not a library event if we're not having a party."

One of the first major initiatives is the 250th Birthday Reading Challenge. Participants who complete at least eight activities on the challenge sheet by June 12 will be eligible to enter a special library raffle. Additional programming details will be announced later in the year.

The Trustees also welcomed Deb Cantrell of the Friends of the Library, part of a new effort to strengthen collaboration between the two groups. While the Trustees and the Friends have long maintained regu-

lar communication, both organizations hope to deepen that partnership in 2026.

"At previous Board meetings, we talked about having a member attend the Friends meetings, and having a Friends of the Library Board member attend the Trustees meetings," said Trustee Chair Karen Bohrer. "Deb is here as a representative of the Friends."

Cantrell noted that the Friends are adjusting after the end of their monthly book sales at the Hills Memorial Library building.

"Our main priority is really fundraising," she said. "It's such a wonderful group of people whose heart is in the right place. They love the library. I've only lived in Hudson for seven years, and the library is how I started to meet people and get connected with my new home."

She expressed optimism that the group will find a new fundraiser to replace the book sales while continuing their other work.

"I'm hopeful, having read the Strategic Plan. That was insightful to me and helped me get a better handle on what the Friends of

the Library can do more," Cantrell added.

The Friends remain active in supporting several library programs, including the popular Museum Pass program, which provides a limited number of free tickets to cardholders. Pilla noted that passes for the new Sensory Seekers attraction on Derry Road have been especially popular with families.

"You do have to have a library card to get that pass, but we will share a pass with you if you come in and get a library card," she said. "It's a very tangible way that the Friends really affect the work that we do at Rodgers Library."

Pilla also thanked the Friends for assisting with holiday decorations this past season.

"They set up the holiday decorations and took them down," she said. "Every time there's a little something that we need doing, we ask the Friends."

The Rodgers Memorial Library Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 6 p.m. in the HCTV building on Kimball Hill Road.

State Gives Guidance on Vehicle Inspection Program

The New Hampshire Department of Justice and Department of Safety provided an update on the state's vehicle inspection program following a federal court order issued on Jan. 27.

The federal court has ordered a continuation of the state vehicle inspection program. The State intends to appeal this court order.

In the interim, due to the public's reasonable expectation that the program was ending on Jan. 31, the Department of Safety is extending the deadline to obtain a state inspection to April 10, for any vehicle with an inspection that expires prior to March 2026.

A request to extend a contract to continue operation of the program is anticipated to be considered by the Executive Council in the near future.

Further guidance will be provided as this situation continues to develop.

Under state law passed last year, New Hampshire's required vehicle inspection program was scheduled to end on Jan. 31, 2026. However, before that change took effect, a federal court ordered the State to keep the inspection program in place for now. As a result, the vehicle inspection program will continue after Jan. 31, 2026.

The State disagrees with the court's preliminary injunction, plans to appeal the court's decision, and will seek to pause the ruling while the appeal is underway. In addition, future legislative action or court developments could change the status of the inspection program.

We understand that these changes may be confusing or frustrating for New Hampshire drivers. If there are any updates, the State will share new guidance at www.dmv.nh.gov and will work to provide additional flexibility where appropriate.

THE Hudson Times

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Town Looks To Create Extreme Weather Capital Reserve Fund

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

A rough start to the New England winter has prompted Hudson officials to propose a new warrant article aimed at helping the town manage the financial impact of extreme weather.

According to the article's explanation, the proposal would establish a fund that could be added to or expended from each fiscal year in conjunction with Public Works account 5557. The goal is to offset overexpenditures related to ex-

treme weather events without draining other parts of the budget. If account 5557 ends the year with a surplus, the Board of Selectmen could vote to transfer those unassigned funds into the new Capital Reserve Fund for future use.

Hudson Town Administrator Roy Sorenson told the Board of Selectmen that the fund would support more than just winter operations.

"This is going to help extreme weather," he said, noting that the town has

seen significant budget pressure in years when storms require extensive overtime.

Public Works Director Jay Twardosky said the department entered the winter season with a \$200,000 overtime budget, and that nearly all of it had already been spent by the time of the meeting.

Almost every storm this year has hit on nights or weekends, he said, and several ice storms required crews to remain on duty around the clock.

"We're pretty much in the red," Twardosky said of the winter budget. The fiscal year ends in June.

During the Deliberative Session, Selectman Dave Morin noted that without a dedicated fund, any additional weatherrelated expenses this year would have to be covered by shifting money from other parts of the town budget.

The proposed fund is intended to prevent that, allowing the town to set aside money in advance rather than pulling from

areas such as the paving budget, a practice officials said has become common in difficult winters.

At the Deliberative Session, the article was amended to read:

"To see if the town will vote to establish an Extreme Weather Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19a, for the purpose of managing extreme weather events and funding unanticipated expenses including but not limited to labor, materials, equipment, and contracted services, and to

raise and appropriate One thousand dollars (\$1,000) to put into this fund with this amount to come from the June 30, 2026 General Fund unassigned Fund Balance; further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority vote required)."

Budget Committee member Shawn Jasper said he and others initially had concerns about the article's wording, but with the amended language, he now supports it.

Hudson Moves Forward With Full Statistical Revaluation Contract

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen voted unanimously at its most recent meeting to award a contract

for the Town's Full Statistical Revaluation, a process required by state law.

Hudson Chief Assessor Jim Michaud explained that the Town must complete a

full reassessment by the 2027 property tax year.

"The Town is required by statutory law as well as by the New Hampshire Constitution to conduct a

Townwide reassessment no later than the 2027 property tax year," Michaud wrote in a memo to the Board. In accordance with Town policy, an RFP was issued to solicit bids for the 2027 revaluation.

The request for proposals was advertised on the Town website, in the Union Leader, on the New Hampshire Municipal Association website, and was sent directly to six vendors. Two companies submitted bids by the Dec. 17, 2025 deadline: Precision Consulting Firm LLC and VGSI (VISION).

After reviewing the submissions, Michaud determined that Precision Consulting Firm's proposal was

incomplete. The company provided no references, no list of New Hampshire municipal clients, and no evidence of having completed at least three comparable revaluation projects. In fact, the firm stated it had "not yet performed revaluation work in New Hampshire or New England."

Additionally, none of the personnel listed in the bid were licensed appraisers or certified by the New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification to conduct revaluation work.

By contrast, Michaud said VGSI submitted all required documentation and has an extensive record of

conducting revaluations throughout New England, including Hudson's 2022 revaluation.

"The contract, not to exceed \$205,000, will be reviewed by legal counsel, reviewed by the Chief Assessor, who will sign on the BOS's behalf, and reviewed as required by the State of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration," Michaud said. He noted during the meeting that both legal counsel and the DRA had already signed off on the contract.

Funding for the project will come from the Town's Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund.

Dog Park

Continued from page 1

After consulting with Town counsel, Jakoby said the key issues now are liability and cost. The attorney advised that the Town should determine whether a new nonprofit could be formed or identified to take over operations.

Until then, Jakoby said she was unsure whether keeping the dog park open was in the Town's best interest.

"This was a very hard thing for me to bring," she said. "But I think it's in the

best interest of taxpayers and the community."

Dhima agreed that temporarily closing the park was the safest option while the Town works to resolve the situation.

Vice Chair Bob Guessferd acknowledged that the decision would likely generate frustration.

"We are going to get a lot of negative feedback," he said, adding that the closure might also motivate some users to step forward and help form a new nonprofit.

Officials emphasized that while the fenced dog park area is closed, resi-

dents may still walk their dogs on leashes throughout Benson Park.

Following the vote, the Town posted a notice on its website: "Due to unforeseen circumstances, the dog park is temporarily closed until further notice. We understand this is disappointing for residents and their pets, and we appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation while the issue is addressed. Updates will be shared as more information becomes available, and we look forward to reopening the park as soon as it is safe to do so."

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Footbridge Plan Hits Snag Over Safety and Code Requirements

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Benson Park Advisory Committee continued discussions on its plan to install a covered bridge over Merrill Brook. After identifying a preapproved bridge design that could save time and money, members met with Elvis Dhima, Hudson's Director of Development Services, to review regulatory and sitepreparation requirements.

"This is concerning the site preparation and design of the covered bridge placement," said Committee member Sue Clement.

Public Works Director

Jay Twardosky has also been involved in the review. He indicated the project may require more time and funding than originally expected in order to meet municipal safety standards.

"I had a meeting on Christmas Eve in the morning with Director Twardosky, and it was a little disappointing, because I thought the project would be a few thousand dollars, but we have to go by the town codes, which will increase expenses," said Committee member Jan Horvath. "Elvis wanted to limit the traffic on the bridge to foot traffic. He doesn't want the town to be

responsible for any accidents that could be caused by a heavy load on the thing."

Alternate member Harry Schibanoff noted that the bridge was always envisioned as a pedestrian structure.

"The question was where the funding would be for it," Horvath added. "It would be good if we could use our capital fund."

There were no objections to using money from the park's capital reserve fund.

Dhima estimated the installation cost at approximately \$20,000.

"The \$20,000, is that the town's estimation for the construction of it, or was it more?" asked Committee member Nathan Muir. "Did they say what the \$20,000 was for?"

The estimate assumed contractor labor would be required. Horvath offered a separate estimate of "under \$5,000" if volunteers were allowed to construct the bridge, though there was disagreement over whether volunteer labor would be permitted based on feedback from the Board of Selectmen and other town officials.

"Did they talk about the

bridges the Conservation Committee does on their own?" asked Selectman Liaison Heidi Jakoby, noting that volunteers routinely install smaller footbridges with lower weight limits in Hudson parks. "I'm not sure why we're getting a different answer than Conservation gets in the other parks."

Horvath suggested the coveredbridge design was "unproven" and would need certification to limit liability. Jakoby said she would look into why a handbuilt bridge at Benson Park might be treated differently from bridges in the Musquash Conservation Area.

"We have the same liability at Musquash Park. If we're required, why isn't every park required? It seems like two different standards," she said. "We're talking about differences between different departments and different understandings."

"There are other bridges in the park that were built by Eagle Scouts," added Schibanoff.

The next meeting of the Benson Park Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m. in the HCTV Meeting Room.

Neighbors Push Back as Washville Seeks Waivers for New Car Wash

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Planning Board met on Jan. 28 to continue review of a deferred site plan that would allow construction of a 4,100squarefoot Washville Car Wash on Morgan Road.

"Washville operates 24 of these facilities from Long Island up to Bangor, Maine. We have another probably 10 or 15 under preconstruction or being permitted now," said Washville representative Frank Doherty. "In terms of the project itself, it's over

by the old gas station by the CVS. It was previously permitted as part of the overall development as a restaurant, but we're going to replace that use with a car wash."

The proposed car wash would be fully automated and close no later than 7:30 p.m. Doherty noted that the building would be "25% smaller" than the previously approved restaurant and would generate less traffic.

"The site will be serviced by one driveway along Morgan Road behind Cumberland Farms," added

Jones & Beach engineer Erik Poulin. "Sewer will be collected out front of the building and will connect to the municipal system. Gas will tie into an existing gas main on Route 102, power is the same."

A major concern from abutters centered on the number of vacuum stations, which several residents feared would increase noise and traffic.

"Washville is a Connecticutbased company, and I honestly don't feel like they care about the great Town of Hudson and

the harm that they'll cause to the everyday lives of the residents," said Laurie Greer. "This business is a membershipbased business. It does unlimited monthly car rewashes, which most likely means increased traffic, not just a passthrough."

Greer also questioned why the application did not include a sound study, noting that the Planning Board has required one for previous car wash proposals.

"There is quite a bit of easement there, but that all seems to be grassland. There's no trees, bushes, or anything that would break up the sound at all that I can see," said Board member James Crowley. "Let me read Hudson Ordinance 2494, which states specific maximum noise limits. Compliance with these limits cannot be reasonably

determined without a professional acoustic analysis."

At Crowley's recommendation, the Board voted to require a noise study.

Residents also raised concerns about a waiver request that would allow Washville to expand elements of the development into the 100foot setback.

"Could the proposed plan be smaller in order to fit within the buffer?" asked resident Phillip Naish. "If they just reduced their parking lot by half, it looks like it should fit."

Doherty said the layout was designed for "safe operation" and "reasonable queueing."

"We've all been to Dunkin' Donuts where the line stretches out into the road and cars can't get by. That's not good for any-

body," he said. "The reason we have the payment layout we have and the queueing is to ensure that during those peak hours cars don't back out into the road."

He agreed to revisit the design to see whether modifications were possible.

"When I look at the waiver, I have to determine whether or not it's induced, and whether or not it can be mitigated," said Board member Victor Oates, who suggested eliminating some vacuum stations to reduce noise and shrink the footprint. "If you do come back and determine that you still need the 18 vacuums, I'd like to see data for financial justification on why that is and part of your submission."

The Planning Board will meet again on Wednesday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m.



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Selectmen Honor Carey and McGrath, Advance Key Road Project in 2025 Report Meeting

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen made two significant decisions at its most recent meeting, selecting the honorees for the 2025 Annual Town Report and approving key right-of-way acquisitions needed for a longplanned roadway improvement project.

Town Report Dedications

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson informed the Board that staff have been finalizing their sections of the Annual Town Report and that Administration has begun assembling the docu-

ment. As is customary, senior staff provided a recommendation for this year's dedication.

"After speaking with Senior Staff, it was suggested that this year's annual report be dedicated to Dorothy Carey," Sorenson wrote in a memo. Carey served as Executive Secretary to the Chief of Police, beginning her career with Hudson on Oct. 12, 1987, and retiring on June 27, 2014, after nearly 27 years of service. She passed away in September 2025.

Selectman Dave Morin recommended adding a sec-

ond dedication to honor Marilyn McGrath, who served as Chair of the Board of Selectmen as recently as 2024 and also passed away recently.

The Board unanimously approved dedicating the 2025 Annual Town Report to both Carey and McGrath.

RightofWay Purchases for Roadway Project

The Board also reviewed a request related to the ongoing effort to improve traffic flow and safety along Lowell Road and County Road.

Director of Develop-

ment Services Elvis Dhima provided background, noting that the Planning Board launched a comprehensive assessment in 2019 to evaluate longterm solutions for the corridor. The study identified the construction of a new connector road between Belknap Road and Lowell Road as the most effective option.

Dhima reported that the project has advanced steadily and is now nearing the end of its design and permitting phase, including the Dredge and Fill Permit and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.

As part of preparing the project for construction, the Town completed a right-of-way analysis that identified impacts to only two properties, 76 and 88 Lowell Road, totaling approximately 27,758 square feet of rightofway, permanent easements, and temporary easements.

A thirdparty appraiser valued the required property interests at a combined \$210,000. Dhima noted that the Planning Board, at its Jan. 14 meeting, recommended an expenditure of up to \$260,000 to cover acquisition costs and related

expenses. To date, \$47,500 has already been spent on valuations and professional services.

The Selectmen unanimously approved purchasing the necessary right-of-way and easements for \$120,000 for 76 Lowell Road and \$90,000 for 88 Lowell Road.

Funding will come from two existing corridor improvement accounts: Zone 1 Traffic Improvements, which had a balance of \$1,019,045.70 as of Jan. 16, and Zone 2 Traffic Improvements, which had \$234,863.10.

Selectmen Lock In Five-Year Telecom Valuation Contract

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen unanimously approved a fiveyear contract for telecommunications valuation appraisal services at its most recent meeting, a key step in preparing for the

Town's next full property revaluation.

Chief Assessor Jim Michaud recommended awarding the contract to George E. Sansoucy, P.E., LLC, a firm that has provided Hudson's public utility and telecommunications

valuation services for more than three decades.

"The Assessing Department is pleased to recommend contracting with George E. Sansoucy, P.E., LLC to provide public utility and telecommunications valuation appraisal services

for the 2027-2031 valuation years at an annual cost of \$28,000," Michaud wrote in a memo to the Board. He noted that the contract is one of three major components needed to complete the 2027 Townwide reassessment.

The proposal was reviewed by the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration, which found it compliant with all state requirements, and by Town legal counsel, who also supported the contract.

Michaud emphasized that the agreement represents a fiveyear commitment that will cover the 2027 revaluation and the subsequent years leading up to the next scheduled Townwide revaluation in 2032.

He also highlighted the importance of continuity in

valuing this specialized category of property.

"The valuation of this property strata has, since 1992, been assigned to an external valuation consultant, George E. Sansoucy, P.E., LLC, under whom we have won every public utility value property tax case in that time period," Michaud said. In 2025, public utility and telecommunications property accounted for \$180.5 million of Hudson's \$5.1 billion tax base.

Michaud explained that the contract was submitted as a "solesource" bid, meaning the Town did not issue a formal RFP or solicit multiple proposals. He outlined three reasons for this approach:

1. Public utility valuation is a highly specialized niche within the appraisal

industry.

2. Retaining the same consultant ensures consistency in valuation methods and preserves institutional knowledge specific to Hudson.

3. Sansoucy is widely regarded as the most qualified consultant in New Hampshire for this type of work.

Funding for the contract is partially budgeted within the Town's Capital Reserve Fund for Future Property Revaluation, with the Board of Selectmen serving as agents to expend.

With no objections raised, the Board voted unanimously to award the 2027-2031 Public Utility and Telecommunications Property Appraisal Contract to George E. Sansoucy, P.E., LLC at \$28,000 per year.

Residents Sign Up for Elections

Hudson residents will head to the polls on March 10 to elect candidates for a range of local offices.

According to the official candidate list, one seat is up on the Board of Selectmen. Kim Allan is the sole candidate running for the three-year term.

Four seats are open on the Budget Committee. Donna Boucher and James Lawrence are running for three-year terms, while Kevin Walsh is seeking a two-year term.

Two candidates - Charles Chapman and Mary Ellen Gannon - are running for a single three-year term as Cemetery Trustee.

No candidates are listed for the Code of Ethics Committee, which has two open seats for three-year terms.

Three candidates are running for two open seats as Library Trustees: Mary "Mimi" Guessford, Susan Jones, and Evan Maloney. Voters will decide which two will serve the three-year terms.

Debra Stoddard is running unopposed for Town Moderator, a two-year term.

On the Planning Board, Timothy Lyko and Jordan Utery are seeking threeyear terms. The Planning Board oversees land use and development decisions in town.

Two seats are open for

Supervisor of the Checklist, which manages voter registration. Garland Mann Lamb is running for a six-year term, and Kathleen Haloon is seeking a fouryear term.

Michelle Brewster is the sole candidate for Town Clerk, a three-year term.

Harry Schibanoff is running for a three-year term as Trustee of Trust Funds, which oversees the management of town trust accounts.

The full slate of candidates will appear on the town ballot and voting will take place in Hudson on Tuesday, March 10 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.



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Town Deliberative

Continued from page 1



Peggy Huard proposed an amendment to reduce the \$41.6 M Operating Budget by \$1M.

Photos by Chris Paul



By a majority vote, the amendment to reduce the \$41.6 M Operating Budget by \$1M failed.

but noted that specific reductions were less important because the administration could apply cuts where it deemed appropriate.

“This reduction relies on strengthening financial policy and controls for more ethical and prudent spending,” Huard said. “Entities that collect and spend public money have the duty to have the most pristine financial controls. The proposed reduction asks the administration to take responsibility for more efficient, prudent, and ethical spending without sacrific-

ing the appropriations needed to provide basic public services.”

Huard said her goal was to ease the tax burden on residents, a concern she hears frequently.

The amendment ultimately failed in what was the first vote for those attending.

The final warrant article will now be heading to the March ballot and reads:

“Shall the Town of Hudson raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and

other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the Warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Forty-one million, Six Hundred Fortyeight Thousand, Three Hundred Fiftyfive Dollars (\$41,648,355)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Fortyone million, Two Hundred Sixtytwo Thousand, One Hundred Ninetyone Dollars (\$41,262,191), which is the same as last year, with certain adjust-

ments required by previous action of the Town of Hudson or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.”

Voting will take place on March 10 at Hudson Memorial School and at Alvirne High School from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Voters may register at the polls.

The School Deliberative Session takes place this weekend at the Hudson Community Center.

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HUDSON SPORTS

Two More Victories Give Admirals Share of First Place

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne-Milford High School Hockey team came off its one-week break to tally two more very valuable victories in the month of January. The latest pair of wins has given them a perfect record since the start of 2026 and put them in a share of first place in the Division II standings.

The Admirals, who share the top spot with the Spaulding Red Raiders, will be starting the month of February at 8-2 and have just eight more games before they head into the Division II playoffs.

The team had a short lull in the schedule, not playing since Jan. 17, but picked up right where they left off.

Heading into the short week-long break, they had beaten Somersworth-Coe-Brown 3-0 on that team's home ice, and on Wednesday, Jan. 28 they were able to beat that same team 6-1. This time on the Admirals home ice, at Skate3 in Tynsboro, Mass.

The Alvirne-Milford squad's freshman Luke Green began the scoring in

the first period and provided all the points necessary for the victory.

Green scored his first goal at the eight-minute mark, with the assists going to Alvirne senior Brandon Ganas and sophomore Riley McCarthy.

About five minutes later, Green put his squad up 2-0 with an unassisted early second marker.

Ganas had the final strike of the period, scoring with a minute left in the period, assisted by Green.

The one-sided barrage continued in the second period, with Alvirne senior Brandon Callahan getting two in the back of the net.

The first came at 9:33, with an assist from Milford senior Landon Briand.

Callahan's second of the period came at 5:34 in the second with Ganas helping on that one, making it 5-0 heading into the break between the second and third.

In the final period, Somersworth-Coe-Brown finally got one past Alvirne senior tender Kian Corcoran at the seven-minute mark.

The final goal of the contest went to Milford jun-

ior Dylan MacLeod, with McCarthy getting his second assist of the night.

Each team had their fair share of penalties in the contest, with both getting called for six infractions.

Over the weekend, the Admirals added their final win of the month in another home game, winning 5-2 over the Nashua North-South squad.

In that game, on Saturday, Jan. 31, the admirals took the early lead at 5:21 in the first with Callahan getting an unassisted marker, but the Nashua side came back in the second to knot the game at 1-1 early in the second period.

The Admirals were able to regain the lead for good before the second period ended, with three goals put in during the final five minutes.

Ganas had the first, unassisted at 4:58, followed by Milford senior Chris Bozza, assisted by MacLeod.

The final goal of the second went to Ganas, with an assist by Green.

The Admiral took a 5-1 lead at 3:33 in the third, with Callahan scoring

assisted by MacLeod and Bozza.

The home squad had four penalties in the win, while Nashua was called on two.

The Alvirne-Milford squad will see if they can continue its seven-game winning streak into the month of February.

They are scheduled to take on St. Thomas Aquinas (8-3) on that team's home ice Wednesday, Feb. 4, starting at 6 p.m.

On Saturday, Feb. 7, they are scheduled to play another road game, this time at Oyster River's home ice starting at 7 p.m. The Bobcats started the week at 7-3-1 and play at the Whittemore Center at the University of New Hampshire



Alvirne senior Brandon Callahan had four goals in two games last week. Photo by Chris Paul

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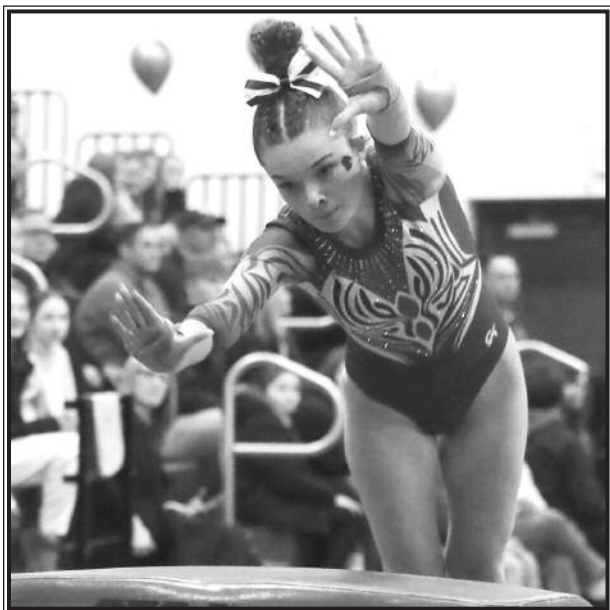
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Alvirne Gymnasts Compete in Londonderry Senior Night Meet



Leanna Carroll

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Gymnastics team consists of two members and have been competing with the Londonderry High School squad over the course of the season and on Monday night, Feb. 2, the two participated in the final home meet of the year.

The six-team meet also served as senior night for both of the girls.

Alvirne seniors Leanna Carroll and Olivia Baptista performed in a number of events that evening.

Carroll's best result of the

night came in her first event of the meet where she finished second in Vault, scoring an 8.8, behind a 9.3 for winners Skyla Houle and Cailee Anderson.

Carroll was awarded 6.4 on the Beam, a 6.1 on Bars and an 8.9 on the Floor.

Baptista, who unfortunately suffered a knee injury warming up on beam and had two scores at the meet.

She received a 6.4 on the Bars and on the Floor.

The team will compete next at the State Championship on Feb. 14, at A2 in Salem.



Olivia Baptista

Broncos Focus on Growth After Challenging Road Trip

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School wrestling team faced a stern test this past week, traveling to Milford for a midweek clash. While the final score favored the Spartans, the Broncos' individual performances highlighted the grit and technical improvement the program has been building all winter.

Verrocchio Sets the Tone

The night opened with a statement at 106 lbs. Alvirne's Mason Verrocchio continues to be a reliable spark plug for the roster. He secured a lightning-fast pin over Connor Hartigan, providing the Broncos with an early 6-0 lead and showcasing his ability to finish matches quickly when he

finds an opening.

Milford's Middle-Weight Run

The Spartans responded by leaning on their depth, taking control through the middle of the lineup. Despite tough efforts from veterans like Tim Malley and Dominic Deoliveira, Milford was able to string together several technical falls and pins. These matches served as a high-level learning experience for a younger Bronco squad as they prepare for the postseason intensity.

Late-Match Resilience

Alvirne showed they can finish just as strong as they start. The upper weight classes provided the highlight of the night for Bronco fans:

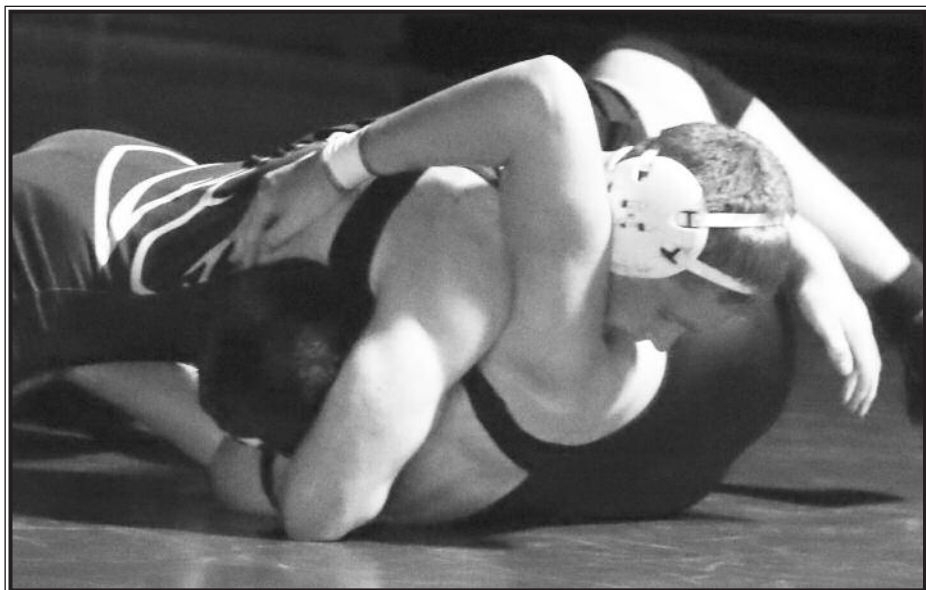
Joseph Lydon (175 lbs): Put on a tactical display, controlling the pace of the match to earn a gritty 11-6 decision victory.

Quintin Tetreault (190 lbs): In the most competitive bout of the evening, Tetreault outlasted his opponent in Sudden Victory (SV-1), pulling off a dramatic 4-1 win that brought the Alvirne bench to its feet.

Marcus Bain (215 lbs): Capped off the successful run with a 10-2 Major Decision, showcasing superior positioning and strength throughout all three periods.

Upcoming Schedule

The Broncos won't have much time to rest as they look to climb the NHIAA Division II standings.



Alvirne's 190 pound wrestler Quintin Tetreault added points to his team's total with a Sudden Victory pulling off a dramatic 4-1 decision. Photo by Chris Paul

The Alvirne team's next dual has them traveling to face local rival Merrimack on Wednesday, Feb. 4. Season dual schedule at Season Finale: The team will conclude its regular season dual schedule at home on February 11th against Kingswood.

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Hudson Selectmen Renew Utility Valuation Contract Through 2031

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen has approved a five-year contract with George E. Sansoucy, P.E., LLC to provide telecommunications and public utility valuation appraisal services for the 2027–2031 tax years. The agreement, priced at \$28,000 annually, is one of the key components needed for Hudson's next townwide property reassessment in 2027.

In a memo to the Board, Chief Assessor Jim Michaud recommended continuing the town's long-standing relationship with Sansoucy's firm. He noted that the State Department of Revenue reviewed the contract and confirmed it meets all state requirements, and Town Counsel Dave Lefevre also issued a favorable legal review.

Michaud explained that the contract "represents a five-year commitment" that

will ensure consistent valuation of public utility and telecommunications properties not only for the 2027 revaluation, but for each year leading up to the next scheduled townwide reassessment in 2032.

Hudson has relied on Sansoucy's firm for this specialized work since 1992. According to Michaud, the town has "won every public utility value property tax case in that time period" under

Sansoucy's valuation approach. The importance of the work is significant: in tax year 2025, public utility and telecommunications properties accounted for \$180.5 million of Hudson's \$5.1 billion total tax base.

The contract was presented as a sole-source procurement, meaning the town did not issue a formal RFP or solicit multiple bids. Michaud outlined three reasons for that approach:

1. Public utility valua-

tion is a niche specialty, and the department recommends retaining the consultant with decades of experience in Hudson.

2. Using the same firm maintains consistency in valuation methodology and preserves institutional knowledge.

3. Sansoucy is considered the most qualified consultant in New Hampshire for this type of appraisal work.

Funding for the contract

is supported in part by the town's Capital Reserve Fund for Future Property Revaluation, with the Board of Selectmen serving as agents to expend.

The Board voted unanimously to award the 2027–2031 Public Utility and Telecommunications Property Appraisal Contract to George E. Sansoucy, P.E., LLC at the annual cost of \$28,000.

Free Tax Prep Appointments for Eligible NH Residents

Statewide Appointments for free tax preparation through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program opened Jan. 20, for eligible New Hampshire residents with household incomes up to \$69,000. The program is administered by Granite United Way and provides no-cost, confidential tax preparation services completed by IRS-certified volunteers. VITA is made possible through funding support from Citizens Bank, along with community partners and volunteers.

The VITA program helps individuals and families file accurate tax returns and access tax credits for which they may be eligible. During the 2025 filing year, the VITA program support-

ed the preparation of 4,830 federal tax returns, resulting in more than \$5.5 million in federal tax refunds returned to individuals and families.

Once an appointment is scheduled, individuals gather their tax documents and valid identification and meet with an IRS-certified volunteer tax preparer. After the tax return is prepared, it is reviewed by a second IRS-certified preparer for accuracy before being submitted. All services are provided at no charge.

Important refund information: The IRS is phasing out paper checks. If you do not have a bank account, you may visit a local bank or credit union to discuss banking options. Paper check requests may be available by request but will

delay your refund.

How to Access Free Tax Preparation

Residents can connect with the VITA program in several ways:

- Call 2-1-1 for information and assistance with scheduling an appointment
- Visit NHTaxHelp.org to learn more about available tax preparation options
- Use MyFreeTaxes.org to prepare a return online for free, with guided support available

VITA services are offered at locations across New Hampshire. The program strives to serve residents who may be underserved or face barriers to accessing tax preparation services, including older adults, people with disabili-

ties, individuals with limited English proficiency, grandparents raising their grandchildren, and people who are working but experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

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needed to support the VITA program, particularly in Berlin and Laconia. Those interested in volunteering can visit www.graniteunitedway.org/volunteer or contact Jennifer.Hunter@graniteunitedway.org for more information.

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Palmer Career & Technical Education Center Holds Open House



The students and staff at the Wilbur H. Palmer Career & Technical Education Center held their annual open house on Wednesday night, Jan. 28, giving attendees a good look at the Career and Technical Education Center. Teachers and students were on-hand to demonstrate a wide variety of the programs offered through the school. Students, who are successful in the 14 Career and Technical Education programs, enter the work force, complete college and/or create and manage their own businesses.

Courtesy photos



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SALES HOURS

Monday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Tuesday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Wednesday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Thursday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Friday	9:00AM - 6:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM - 5:00PM
Sunday	10:00AM - 3:00PM

SERVICE HOURS

Monday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Tuesday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Wednesday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Thursday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Friday	7:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Sunday	CLOSED

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.

Easter Basket Drive

The Hudson Lions Club will be holding an Easter Basket Drive on Saturday, Feb. 7 at the Dollar Tree, 68 Derry Rd., Hudson from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Teens are often overlooked and the Hudson Lions are looking for items for teens in our community to fill Easter Baskets for the Hudson Community Food Pantry. Items needed are hair & accessories such as brushes, scrunchies & clips. Self-care items as ChapStick, nail polish, deodorant. School and art supplies, notebooks, pens, colored pencils. Card games, novelty socks. Gift cards for Dollar Store, Dairy Queen, MacDonalds. Monetary donations are also accepted.

Veterans Assistance

American Legion Post 27, 6 Sargent Rd., Londonderry, will host representatives from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs on Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m. noon, to provide direct assistance to veterans in the community. During the event, VA representatives will be available to: Sign veterans up for VA benefits and services; Help resolve existing VA-related issues; Answer questions about eligibility, health-care, and benefits; and Provide guidance on navigating the VA system. This event is open to all veterans, not just members of the American Legion. Veterans who need to sign up with the VA are asked to bring a copy of their DD-

214. Veterans, family members, and caregivers are encouraged to attend and take advantage of this opportunity for one-on-one support. For more information, veterans may contact American Legion Post 27 directly via mail@alpost27.com or stop by during the event.

2026 Hudson Lions Club Scholarships

The Hudson Lions Club will award multiple scholarships consisting of four individual \$1,500 scholarships, two \$1,500 memorial scholarships, honoring Lion Al Rodgers and Lion George Philip Rodgers, a \$2,000 memorial scholarship in memory of Lion Joe Kasper, and a single \$1,500 scholarship for an Alvirne Leo's

Club Member. Applicants must be a Hudson resident, graduating from any high school and have been accepted at a school of higher learning. Applications are available at Alvirne High School Guidance Department or email: scholarships@hudsonlions.org. Application deadline April 10, 2026

Dungeons & Donuts

Come play Dungeons & Dragons and grab a donut on Saturday, Feb. 7 and 21 at 9:30 a.m., at the Rodgers Library. All skill levels are welcome.

Inhouse Secondhand Prose Book Sale

Check out the Secondhand Prose sale area in the Children's Room of Rogers Memorial Library, running during normal library hours. The book selection offers something for everyone, is restocked frequently and offered at the same bargain price as the big sale. Stationary featuring work of local artists, adorable tote bags, and handmade gifts are also available. The prices are

extremely reasonable.

Mystery Lovers' Book Club

This club will be held on Monday, Feb. 9 at 12:30 p.m., at the Rodgers Library. This month's book pick is "A Daughter of Fair Verona" by Christina Dodd.

Friends of the Library

February focuses on matters of the heart, what an excellent time to join The Friends of the Library. The Friends business meeting will be held Feb. 17 at 6 p.m., in Rogers Memorial Library's community room. There will be discussions on upcoming events, continue work on new fund-raising and service opportunities. The work of FOL is vitally important to the community and library programs and events. Please register for the meeting on the RML website Event Calendar.

Books vs. Movies

This club will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 1:30 p.m., at the Rodgers Library. Join us for a presentation on the

elements of screenwriting followed by a discussion of books and their movies.

Cozy Yoga Storytime

Come to the Rodgers Library for a storytime adventure with songs, stories, and yoga on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. For families with children.

Fibonacci Valentine

Use simple math to create art at the Rodgers Library on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 5:30 p.m. Children in grades K-5 will learn about the Fibonacci sequence, then create a valentine.

Nonfiction Book Group

This club will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m., at the Rodgers Library. This month's book "The Dawn's Early Light" by Walter Lord

Homeschool Valentine's Party

On Thursday, Feb. 12 at 1 p.m., Homeschool families with children ages 5-12 are invited to a Valentine's party

continued on page 14

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Around Town

Continued from page 13

at the Rodgers Library! Join in for games and a craft!

Curious Kids: Valentines

Explore learning centers with your preschooler at the Rodgers Library on Friday, Feb. 13 and Saturday, 1 at 10 a.m.

The Art Spy

On Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m., Author Michelle Young will discuss her new book "The Art Spy: The Extraordinary Untold Tale of WWII Resistance Hero Rose Valland." In this Virtual event hosted by the Rodgers Library.

Afternoon Book Group

This club will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 1:30 p.m., at the Rodgers Library. This month's book pick is "Spit-fires: The American Women Who Flew in the Face of Danger During World War II" by Becky Aikman.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library will hold their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 6 p.m., at the Rodgers Library.

Crime & Cookies

The true crime podcast club will be hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m., at the Rodgers Library.

Cookbook Club

This club will be held on Monday, Feb. 23 at 11:30 a.m., prepare a recipe from this month's topic, then engage with others about your recipe adventures at the Rodgers Library.

(how to avoid) "Death in Glacier National Park"

On Monday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m., join in virtually to discuss Randi Minetor's book "Death in Glacier National Park: Stories of Accidents and Foolhardiness in the Crown of the Continent." Hosted by Rodgers Library.

Read 'Em & Eat @ Friendly Red's

Come to Friendly Red's on Monday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m., to discuss February's book is Get a Life, Chloe Brown by Talia Hibbert.

Girl Power PJ Party

Wear your pajamas as to watch the Disney film Tangled, make friendship bracelets, paint our nails, and eat some pizza at the Rodgers Library on Tuesday, Feb. 24 at 5 p.m. This event is for grades 2-7.

Comic Book Flowers

On Thursday, Feb. 26 at 5 p.m., Tweens (Grades 4-8) will use/cut up comic books provided by the Rodgers library (or feel free to bring your own) and use chopsticks or pens as a stem to create your forever living flower(s).

Paws4Safety for Kids

On Friday, Feb. 27 at 10 a.m., Children in grades K-5 are invited to join Hudson Animal Control at the Rodgers Library for a fun, hands-on learning experience where kids will discover how to stay safe around their own pets, other people's animals, and local wildlife.

Paws4Safety for Teens and Tweens

On Friday, Feb. 27 at 11 a.m., Patrons ages 11-18 are invited to join Hudson Animal Control for a fun, hands-on learning experience at the Rodgers Library to discover how to stay safe around their own pets, other people's animals, and local wildlife.

Legion Meat Raffle

American Legion Hudson Post 48's Meat Raffle will be held at Post 48, located at 37 Central St. On the following dates: Saturday, Feb. 21, beginning at 2 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, beginning at 2 p.m.; Saturday, April 18, beginning at 2 p.m. This event is open to the public. You must be 16+ to play. The proceeds from this event are to benefit the Alvirne HS CTE Honor Society. Pre-buys

are available in the Foxhole. For more information please call 603-889-9777.

Lego Glasses

On Wednesday, Feb. 25 at 5:30 p.m., Design your own pair of LEGO glasses to take home at the Rodgers Library. Ages 4+.

Family Pizza Shabbat

ETZ Hayim Synagogue will hold Family Pizza Shabbat on Friday, Feb. 6, at 5:30 p.m. A free pizza dinner will be followed by an intergenerational service for everyone. There will be kids' activities while adults enjoy a sermon with Rabbi Jonathan Biatch. Bring a nosh for the potluck oneg. Come to share in the mitzvah of L'Dor V'Dor, transmitting Jewish heritage and values across generations. RSVP by Feb. 5 to office@etzhayim.org.

Sunday Family Camp

ETZ Hayim Synagogue Sunday Family Camp will be Sunday, Feb. 8, from 10 a.m. - Noon for ages 4-6. February's class will focus on Purim in preparation for the holiday in March. Children will learn about the Purim story (using an age-appropriate text) and how to celebrate this fun holiday. RSVP to sarahjohnplater@aol.com by Feb. 6 to ensure we have enough materials.

Legion Karaoke

American Legion Hudson Post 48 will be hosting DJ Mike on the following dates: Friday, March 20, from 6 - 10 p.m.; Friday, April 17, from 6 - 10 p.m. In the Foxhole located at 1 Fulton St for Karaoke and Dancing. This event is open to members and bona fide guests 21+. For more information please call 603-889-9777.

Teen Hangout

Middle and high school students ages 13+ are invited to enjoy the Rodgers Library's teen space after school, most Weekdays at 2:30 p.m. Snacks, charging stations, video games, and crafts provided. Connect the

Library with any questions.

Explorers Storytime

On Fridays at 1:30 p.m., the Rodgers Library will have songs, stories, bubbles and a craft or activity for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers.

Lego Club

Come build an amazing creation with Rodgers Library LEGO bricks on Saturday, Jan. 31 at 10 a.m. The librarians will put your creations on display in the library if you wish.

Adventurers Storytime

Come to the Rodgers Library for songs, stories, bubbles and a craft or activity for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays.

Buy-a-Brick and Show Gratitude

Preserve a memory and help the Friends of the Library support programs, events, museum and entertainment venue passes, and scholarships. FOL will engrave your purchased bricks with two lines (\$55) or three lines (\$80) with your special message. The order form is on Rodgers Memorial Library website click on the Friends page. The bricks are placed in the RML Walkway twice a year and will become an enduring legacy. For an inanimate object, each brick can speak volumes.

BINGO!

Bingo is back at the Senior Center, 19 Kimball Hill Rd., Hudson, every Tuesday 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.

A Good Yarn

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., come to the Rodgers Memorial 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.

Drop In Stitchers

If you love to craft, whether it be quilting, knitting, crocheting, rug making or plastic canvas, you will LOVE this Rogers Library group! This group will meet on Fridays at 9:15 a.m.

Baby Lapsit and Playtime

On Thursdays come to the Rogers Library at 10 a.m., for interactive stories and songs for babies and their caregivers followed by playtime.

Movers & Shakers

Come to Rodgers Memorial Library on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., for a Toddler storytime for kids that don't sit still for long. Movement, songs, bubbles, and stories for ages 1-3.

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 them for use by low-income individuals and families. The client recipients are low-income, and living in our Greater Nashua area. Devices can be dropped off at the United Way office located at 20 Broad St., Nashua between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on

weekdays or by appointment email info@unitedway-nashua.org if you have any questions.

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)

Clean Water Survey

Clean water is more than a resource; it's the lifeline of our community. Your voice holds the power to shape a healthier water future for you and for generations to come. Survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/VOWNOV2024. As an added bonus, when you complete the survey, you'll have the chance to enter to win one of 25 fixed-mount or handheld water-saving showerheads, making your contribution to clean water even more rewarding.

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