

**Official**

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, January 24, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman G. Longfellow called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**PRESENT:** Michael DiBitetto, James Gorton, Jason Hyde, David Ross, Patricia Rueppel, Stuart Werksman, Chairman George Longfellow, David Jodoin (Town Administrator)

Excused: Mike Jolin, Paul Loiselle

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

January 10, 2007 Budget Workshop

***P. Rueppel motioned to accept. Seconded by S. Werksman.  
Voted unanimously in the affirmative. J. Hyde abstained***

January 10, 2007 Regular Meeting

***J. Gorton motioned to accept. Seconded by P. Rueppel.  
Voted unanimously in the affirmative. J. Hyde abstained***

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

D. Hemeon distributed a handout to the Council.

D. Hemeon read a statement requesting the Council to reconsider the increase in Health Insurance premiums paid by the employee. The increase cost of insurance was budgeted by Diane Savoie and is in the 06/07 budget through June, and it would be in the best interest of the town to delay the implementation of this change until July. This will give everyone a chance to reexamine the plans. (see file)

Chief Agrafiotis: Two issues in relation to the Police Department. First is the impact on the employees. Second it is difficult to find new officers and support staff. We are in competition with neighboring towns. I'm also concerned with retention of current employees. If we are out of line, we will lose employees or potential new employees when they compare us to other communities. I ask, like Dale, if the Council can go back into the budget and review their decision regarding the increase in the health insurance cost. I see a potential negative impact as a result of this change.

Diane Boyce: As a result of the increase in health benefit cost to the employee, it will be hard to replace men on the back of the garbage truck. The only draw is the benefits.

M. Sorel: A few years ago, we had a wage and salary benefits committee. What we determined was there are several reasons people stay in their job. One is security. The town won't go out of business. The other is benefits. Several town employees have approached me and they are concerned with this major increase in their plan. They aren't able to say they can go without insurance.

Heather Shumway: I would like to add the library's support on behalf of the other department heads that have spoken.

Response:

M. DiBitetto: There is a misconception. No one is forced to take the insurance. The Council offered a higher deductible plan at a lower cost. The amount allowed can go towards paying that deductible. We would pay the same amount that we would pay for the top of the line plan and it is possible that

someone could pay nothing for their plan. This would give employees an opportunity to start looking at the different plans.

D. Hemeon requested that the forms, which show the alternate plans, be made available to M. DiBietto. There are some very unrealistic plans offered. The point was, if we can put this off until July, we could look for other plans. The money is still there in the budget until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007

**NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS:**

**Available Positions:**

Building Board of Appeals, Fill-in Full Member, exp. 6-2009  
Conservation Commission, Fill-in Alt. Members, exp. 6/2008  
Heritage Commission, Fill-in Alt. Members, exp. 6/2008

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:**

Public Hearing, Seavey/Urquhart Subdivision Barberry Road Acceptance

D. Hemeon recommended that the town accept the Seavey/Urquhart Subdivision. \$63,206 must be available for a period of two years for any defects. They have met all their obligations.

Open Public Hearing at 7:09 pm

Close Public Hearing at 7:10 pm

***J. Hyde motioned to accept the subdivision. Seconded by J. Gorton.  
Roll Call unanimously in favor.***

Fire Department, Rescue Vehicle Approval

Chief Williams stated that a packet of information sent to the Councilors relative to the ambulance. The vehicle specs were sent out on 12/1/06 to seven vendors and three bids came back. The bids were reviewed to insure they meet the spec. The Heavy Equipment Subcommittee reviewed and approved the specs. Merrill Johnson will submit a letter of satisfaction. The vehicle will be purchased with impact fees. As of 1/9/07 the impact fees balance is \$390,173.73.

AV	\$233,693.00
Greenwood	\$295,372.60
Quality Emergency vehicles	\$298,774.00

AV at \$233,693 is being recommended.

G. Longfellow read the letter from M. Johnson Chair of the Heavy Equipment Committee.

Chief Williams does not recommend trading in the hose vehicle at this time. It can be sold independently for more money than the trade. The allowance on a trade was \$7500.

D. Ross: Why the big discrepancy between bidders?

Chief Williams: The interior compartments were made out of wood compared to the others, which were aluminum. That's all we could find.

M. DiBietto: What would be needed if the town decides to go to a full ambulance service?

Chief Williams: We could do that separately and bid it out as well. We would need defibrillators.

***S. Werksman motioned to accept the bid for AV for \$233,693 and authorize the withdrawal of \$233,693 from impact fees payable upon delivery. Seconded by D. Ross.***

**Roll Call**

<b>Michael DiBietto</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>James Gorton</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Jason Hyde</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>David Ross</b>	<b>Y</b>

Patricia Rueppel Y  
Stuart Werksman Y  
Chairman George Longfellow Y  
Motion passed

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Mike Horne: P & R has worked on a 5-year plan to get the recreation inventory without a deficit by 2009. We proposed a town owned parcel on Corriveau Drive. It is a 6.3-acre lot, which we propose to develop into tennis courts and a playground. This would be the first facility on the west side of the river. We only have two years to reduce the deficit before we start returning impact fees. The town currently owns the land. The value of the lot will be put toward the deficit. The deficit is now \$213,000. The lot is a good site. We have walked the property. It is currently wooded with pines. There is a stream that comes down through the middle of it.

J. Hyde: The spreadsheet that shows the 5-year plan, we are talking about reducing the deficit. The made up deficit. We don't know who made that up. This can be done with next to nothing if we designate an area as recreation use. You can call it a hiking trail. We could put a hiking trail on Quimby Mountain and I guarantee scouts would use it. Why don't we forget about the 5-year part and just do it now if it doesn't cost anything.

D. Hemeon: You still have to build it. We have to build that park. We've already reduced the deficit from \$659,000 with little cost. The piece of land on Hackett Hill will be done at little cost but we need some money.

***D. Ross motioned to move forward and designate a parcel known as lot 22-25 as recreation property with the intent to be a recreational facility in the future. Seconded by J. Gorton.***

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto Y  
James Gorton Y  
Jason Hyde Y  
David Ross Y  
Patricia Rueppel Y  
Stuart Werksman Y  
Chairman George Longfellow Y  
Voted unanimously in favor

***M. DiBitetto motioned to adopt the Park and Recreational Advisory Board plan. Seconded by P. Rueppel.***

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto Y  
James Gorton Y  
Jason Hyde Y  
David Ross Y  
Patricia Rueppel Y  
Stuart Werksman Y  
Chairman George Longfellow Y  
Voted unanimously in favor

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Approval of Pay Ranges

D. Jodoin presented the ranges, which show the starting and ending salaries. There will no longer be steps.

M. DiBitetto asked how the pay increases will be distributed

D. Jodoin: From the conversations that have taken place over the last few weeks, it seems as though the Council wished to adopt a range of pay for positions and then switch from the current 20 step chart to a merit driven system for pay increases. There would be a minimum and a maximum, similar to a grading scale.

M. DiBitetto: There would be no adjustments today; it would be at the normal review time?

D. Jodoin: The Council would need to decide which way they wished to go, whether there would be a percentage for a merit increase and a cost of living, or just a fixed percentage.

M. DiBitetto: We adjusted the wage line as a result of this action. How were these wages adjusted and the question of the cola? The adjustments have been provided, so why would we have a separate line for cola.

D. Jodoin: I looked at the gap between the starting pay and current pay and adjusted the employee's current wage. From there, a motion was made to increase the cola for next year. The motion didn't specify a step increase.

D. Ross: We did increase all departments already. Now we have the ranges which we talked about. We are trying to get away from the step issue. The merit just micro-manages again. I thought it would be up to the department managers to determine performance.

D. Jodoin: You need a maximum amount to factor into the budget.

D. Ross: the department head will determine the merit and the dollar amount. I don't know how that happens. We want to simplify it as much as possible and we tried to put people at that average. To create another table would be contrary to what we are trying to do. The insurance change also took place on January 1<sup>st</sup>?

D. Jodoin: We were late signing on and there was an open enrollment period, so it won't happen until February.

D. Ross: The cost of this insurance is budgeted?

D. Jodoin: Diane Savoie historically goes back and factors in an increase based on the actual from July to December and that was done.

J. Hyde: This is similar to the way companies do. They give a 3% pool of money and based on performance, the department heads can divide the money. It must be on merit. It's how the real world works. Those that perform get more money and those that show up late should get less. The Council passes on to the Administrator an amount that the raise can go up. You set up the system you are comfortable with.

D. Jodoin: This would be a wage pool and I understood that was the direction the Council wanted to take.

J. Hyde: In addition, there must also be a range. So when the review is done, if people are outside of this, above it, and there are people above it, there must be a mechanism to decide how these people will get an increase. There must be maximum increases. There must be a mechanism, possibly a lump sum payout at the end of the year based on a percentage. It's not a constant percentage. It's a one-time pay out. There must be a system to account for those folks.

M. DiBitetto: I think the problem with the increase in insurance is a lack of understanding by the employees in the different plans. I know of no plans that make a 2500 deductible payment out of the gate. We need some form of education for the employees. It is a change but it is a change we are all suffering through. That's part of the program that needs to be considered.

D. Jodoin: The Towns insurance carrier (LGC) did come down and set up meetings with the employees to discuss the options that were available to them, and explained the policies and

coverage's in great detail. I would be more than willing to have some other Department Heads work with me to come up with some options. Our policy expires in December of 2007. April is the time to get together and start looking at other plans. If we try and get the school and all other Town Departments involved, we may be able to save both the employees and the Town some money. If others become involved, they can see the pros and cons and understand in more detail what the Town is faced with each year through rising costs.

D. Hemeon: The question is to postpone the implemented change until July.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2007-2008 Warrant Articles**

**Article #3**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500,000 (one million five hundred thousand dollars) for the purpose of upgrading the Hooksett Wastewater Department Treatment Facility such sum to be raised by the issuance of bonds or notes not to exceed \$1,500,000 (one million five hundred thousand dollars) under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the Town Council to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, to determine the rate of interest thereon and to take such other actions as may be necessary to effect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Hooksett. This warrant will not be executed if the 2006/2007 Cabela's \$18,000,000 bond is issued. (3/5 ballot vote required)

***M. DiBitetto motioned to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by S. Werksman.***

J. Hyde stated it is unfair to make people who don't use the sewer pay for the sewer.

H. Murray: He was told years ago that this is to protect the river for all.

B. Kudrick: The users are already paying an increase for a prior warrant article. Maintaining the Merrimack River helps everyone. It benefits all the people of New Hampshire. The Sewer Commission felt that they couldn't hit the ratepayers again. They are already paying for a 3.5 million bond.

D. Ross: Our ability to process sewer is a town wide infrastructure issue. The wastewater treatment plant is a town facility and makes the town more or less desirable which impacts the value of properties.

J. Gorton: Included in the packet were comments from the Town Planner. It said there was sufficient capacity for these projects and I saw in the paper that the State issued a cease and desist order. How can they still issue permits and say they have capacity?

B. Kudrick: The plant is designed for 1.1 million gallons. A portion of this was sold to developers. That money is used for system development and that will be used for upgrade to put with the 3.5 and 1.5 million. If you came in with a 10-lot subdivision, we don't have any capacity. This is already designated to these developers.

S. Werksman: If it's being sold, is it being sold at a profit and is this good for the town. Will there be a drop-dead date for the 18 million dollar bond if this will be issued.

G. Longfellow: It depends when Cabela moves forward. There must be a time when you can't move forward.

B. Kudrick: The head of the Commission said if this passes ahead of Cabela's, you take the 1.5 off the 18 million and zero this out. This is a protection recommended by the Town Administrator because issues between Cabela's and the State are taking longer than anticipated and we want to go out to bid in March.

**Roll Call**

<b>Michael DiBitetto</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>James Gorton</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Jason Hyde</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>David Ross</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Patricia Rueppel</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Stuart Werksman</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Chairman George Longfellow</b>	<b>Y</b>

**Article #4**

Shall the Town of Hooksett 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 \$14,895,513? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$14,735,638, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Hooksett 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. Note: This Article does not include special warrant articles #3, 5 through #????.

**Article #5**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) to be placed in the Town-Wide Computer Development Fund already established.

***M. DiBitetto motioned to place this article on the warrant article. Seconded by P. Rueppel.***

D. Jodoin: This is strictly for the Fire Department.

D. Ross: Didn't we already approve the Fire to purchase 2 new servers.

Chief Williams: Yes, this is for the 12 desktop units. The 2 servers have been done. This was staggered over a two-year period.

**Roll Call**

<b>Michael DiBitetto</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>James Gorton</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Jason Hyde</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>David Ross</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Patricia Rueppel</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Stuart Werksman</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Chairman George Longfellow</b>	<b>Y</b>

**Motion carries**

**Article #6**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 (forty thousand dollars) to be placed in the Emergency Radio Communication Development Capital Reserve Fund already established.

***M. DiBitetto motioned to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by S. Werksman.***

D. Ross: Is this needed. What is the balance of this account?

Chief Agrafitotis: There is \$123,000 as of Sept. '06. This is to continue put money for future upgrades and expansion. The estimated total number was \$400,000. We are not looking at any replacements soon.

D. Jodoin: \$125,161 is the current balance.

D. Ross: Personally, this is where we can take action to take a warrant off the ballot.

**Roll Call**

<b>Michael DiBitetto</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>James Gorton</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>Jason Hyde</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>David Ross</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>Patricia Rueppel</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>Stuart Werksman</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Chairman George Longfellow</b>	<b>Y</b>

**Motion failed 3 - 4**

**Article #7**

To see if the Town will vote to deposit 100% (percent) of the revenues collected from current use, pursuant to RSA 79-A, and deposit said money in the Conservation Current Use Fund already established, in accordance with RSA 36-A:5, III as authorized by RSA 79-A:25, II.

***M. DiBitetto motioned to place the article on the warrant. Seconded by P. Rueppel***

**Roll Call**

<b>Michael DiBitetto</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>James Gorton</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Jason Hyde</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>David Ross</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Patricia Rueppel</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Stuart Werksman</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Chairman George Longfellow</b>	<b>N</b>

**Motion carries 5 – 2**

**Article #8**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$185,350 (one hundred eighty three thousand three hundred fifty dollars) for the salaries, benefits and other initial costs of three (3) new full-time firefighters. (Salaries, benefits and taxes listed below depict a full year's expense.)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Taxes &amp; Retire</u>	<u>Hiring Costs &amp; Other Costs</u>
2007-08	\$101,796	\$55,222	\$17,682	\$10,650

***M. DiBitetto motioned not to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by J. Gorton.***

Chief Williams: This is to bring our staffing up to Nationally recognized standards and bring all shifts up to seven. This would get another piece of equipment out the door. This is necessary for the safety of the firefighters as well as the citizens.

D. Ross: I defer to the chief's suggestion based on manning another vehicle and it should be up to the town to decide. I recommend that we place this on the ballot.

J. Gorton: In reference to the National standards, what do we gain by meeting those standards.

Chief Williams: They are in place in case something bad happens. This is in place for safety of all, both the community and firefighters. The more businesses come in the more calls we respond to.

***M. DiBitetto withdrew his motion. J. Gorton withdrew his second.***

***M. DiBitetto motioned to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by J. Gorton.***

M. DiBietto: This is a significant increase in staffing. I can appreciate the growth, but the cost of adding staff has never outweighed the cost of the overtime. In trying to keep the budget low, I will not support this warrant.

D. Ross: With our facilities meeting standard, does that affect our bond rating?

D. Jodoin: I'm not sure about our bond rating but it does affect our insurance rating.

Chief Williams asked the Council to consider a reduced number. If we reduced the warrant to two firefighters, the cost would be \$123,566. We would at least be working towards our goal.

J. Hyde: In your opinion, are you at a situation where you can't cope and are missing calls?

Chief Williams: Statistically, we track overlapping calls. This year, that number exceeded 300. Every time we have overlapping calls, we have no protection. That is a concern to me because both stations are committed.

J. Hyde: Would three guys remedy that situation?

M. Williams: Yes, because we could get another piece of equipment on the road.

#### Roll Call

Michael DiBietto	N
James Gorton	N
Jason Hyde	N
David Ross	N
Patricia Rueppel	N
Stuart Werksman	N
Chairman George Longfellow	N

**Motion failed.**

**D. Ross motioned to place (new article #8) on the warrant. Seconded J. Gorton.**

M. DiBietto I remind the Council that we defunded two police officers.

D. Ross: That was two positions which were unfilled for a long time.

#### Roll Call

Michael DiBietto	N
James Gorton	N
Jason Hyde	N
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	N

**Motion failed 3 - 4**

#### Article #9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 (twenty thousand dollars) to be placed in the Fire Air Packs & Bottles Capital Reserve Fund already established.

**M. DiBietto motioned to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by D. Ross.**



**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto Y  
James Gorton Y  
Jason Hyde N  
David Ross Y  
Patricia Rueppel Y  
Stuart Werksman Y  
Chairman George Longfellow Y

**Motion carries**

**Article #10**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 (forty thousand dollars) to be placed in the Assessing Certification Capital Reserve Fund already established.

***J. Gorton motioned to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by D. Ross.***

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto Y  
James Gorton Y  
Jason Hyde Y  
David Ross Y  
Patricia Rueppel Y  
Stuart Werksman Y  
Chairman George Longfellow Y

**Motion carries**

D. Jodoin: We got an estimate from Visions for a reval in 2008. This included one initial visit on the property and one attempt to call back for interior review.

2008 total reval residential - \$350,000

Update - \$180,000

Certification is 2008. Depending where we come in. Currently we will have to do a total reval because properties are undervalued. You must be 90 to 110 of equalization.

J. Hyde: Are we going to bond this? Why put \$40,000 if we will bond it. It will take forever to get \$350,000 at that rate.

G. Longfellow: If we need this for 2008, we should be bonding this now.

***M. DiBitetto motioned to table until the Administrator gathers more information on the cost of the Bond. J. Gorton seconded***

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto Y  
James Gorton Y  
Jason Hyde Y  
David Ross Y  
Patricia Rueppel Y  
Stuart Werksman Y  
Chairman George Longfellow Y

Tabled

**Article #11**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of updating the Town of Hooksett's Master Plan and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) to be placed in said fund, and to name the Town Administrator as agent to expend.

***S. Werksman motioned to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by M. DiBitetto.***

M. DiBitetto: This must be done but doesn't need to be done this year. I'd like to remove this warrant and move the north-south feasibility study. I recommend we don't place this article on the warrant.

J. Gorton: Is this a new fund?

D. Jodoin: It is a new fund, which failed last year.

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto	N
James Gorton	N
Jason Hyde	N
David Ross	N
Patricia Rueppel	N
Stuart Werksman	N
Chairman George Longfellow	N

**Motion failed**

**Article #12**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 (Fifty thousand dollars) to be placed in the Parks and Recreation Facilities Development Fund already established and to name the Town Administrator as agent to expend.

***J. Gorton motioned to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by D. Ross.***

***Roll Call***

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	N
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

**Motion carried 6 – 1**

**Article #13**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 (fifty thousand dollars) to be placed in the North/South Highway Feasibility Study (Parkway – Southern Leg Feasibility Study) already established.

***M. DiBitetto motioned to place the article on the warrant. P. Rueppel seconded.***

***M. DiBitetto motioned to amend from \$50,000 to \$100,000.  
Amendment failed to get a second***

This already has \$52,000 plus anticipated donations.

C. Watson: Both the University and MS&G contributed \$28,000 but didn't give it to the town; they did some work with Holden Engineering. I don't even have a copy of the work. I assume it was of some value.

D. Ross: This is the same article, which failed last year. Personally, I don't see where it's a road to anywhere.

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	N
Jason Hyde	N
David Ross	N
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	N

**Motion failed 3-4**

**Article #14**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the establishment of a Solid Waste Front-end Loader Fund and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 (thirty thousand dollars) to be placed in said fund, and to name the Town Administrator as agent to expend. Said funds to be withdrawn from the Solid Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund, with no funds from current year taxation.

***P. Rueppel motioned to place this article on the warrant. S. Werksman seconded.***

J. Gorton questioned the statement "With no funds from current year taxation." Could it be from future taxes?

G. Longfellow: No, it comes from the fees collected by the Transfer Station.

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	Y
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

**Motion carries**

**Article #15**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the establishment of a Roadway Impact Fees/Zone Plans Fund to establish plans for roadway improvements in the 3 zones to be used in justifying collecting roadway impact fees and appropriate the sum of \$34,000 (thirty-four thousand dollars) to be placed in said fund, and to name the Town Administrator as agent to expend.

***M. DiBitetto motioned to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by P. Rueppel.***

D. Ross recommended simplifying the wording.

D. Marshall: How about development zone plans for the use of impact fees. You could write half a page to explain to the average person who hasn't kept up with the roadway changes.

***D. Ross motioned to table in order to reword. J. Gorton seconded.***

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	Y
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

***Motion carries***

***M. DiBitetto recommended: For the establishment of a fund to develop three zone plans for the use of roadway impact fees to insure the safe flow of traffic***

**Article #16**

To see if the Town will vote to create an capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1, to be know as the Town Building Maintenance Fund, for the purpose of repairing and maintaining town buildings and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 (forty thousand dollars) for this fund, and to name the Town Administrator as agent to expend.

***J. Gorton motioned to place the article on the warrant. Seconded by S. Werksman.***

D. Jodoin this is a new fund with no balance.

D. Ross asked about the \$30,000, which was in a fund established to maintain the Village School. Is that expended?

D. Jodoin: Some money was set aside for design review. That money wasn't spent. The \$30,000 was for heat and general maintenance of the building, which is in the general fund. I could lower this number but this year we spent \$12,000 for the heating system in the town hall and some issues at the Safety Center.

J. Hyde: How much is the current maintenance line item.

D. Jodoin: You have 20 million dollars of buildings to be maintained and we have a budget of about 30,000. There isn't much money to do normal repairs. The Safety Center has issues with leaks that have been an ongoing problem, there are some issues on the Fire side with the bay heaters, the majority of the money in the budget is for minor maintenance issues and things like the elevator service, bug spraying, and extinguisher maintenance, small items. D. Jodoin suggested starting out with something and suggested lowering the amount to \$20,000 to start a savings plan.

***J. Hyde motioned to amend this article to \$20,000. Seconded by M. DiBitetto***

**Roll Call (on amendment)**

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	Y
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

**Amendment carries**

**Roll Call (on amended motion)**

<b>Michael DiBitetto</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>James Gorton</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Jason Hyde</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>David Ross</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Patricia Rueppel</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Stuart Werksman</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Chairman George Longfellow</b>	<b>Y</b>

**Voted unanimously in the affirmative.**

**Article #17**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost item included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hooksett Police Commission and the Hooksett Police Union which calls for the following increases in salaries, taxes, retirement, and other benefits at the current staffing level:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Taxes, Benefits &amp; Retirement</u>
#1		
#2		
#3		

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$????? (thousand dollars) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year.

Chief Agrafiotis stated that the union has postponed the vote so there is no information on this article.

**Article #18**

Shall the Town, if Article #17 is defeated, authorize the Town Council to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article #17 cost items only per RSA 31:5,III.

This is tied to Article #17

**Article #19**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a revolving fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of police special details. All revenues received for police special details will be deposited into the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund unreserved fund balance; furthermore, to raise and appropriate \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) in order to pay for any details until such time as any outside payments are received. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the town council and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created.

**S. Werksman motioned to place this article on the warrant. Seconded by M. DiBitetto.**

Chief Agrafiotis: I'm only concerned that \$10,000 is sufficient and it was D. Savoie's concern last year.

D. Ross: My understanding is that the money in the line item of the budget would be expended first.

Chief Agrafiotis: You will need both budget line and fund the first year and then remove the budget line the next year.

D. Ross: If we use the operating budget money first, we would not use this \$10,000. As this money grows, how else would this be expended?

Chief Agrafiotis: You can't. It continues to build.

J. Hyde: The line item of \$60,000, why didn't we reduce that. What is it under the default budget?

D. Jodoin: \$60,000.

J. Hyde: Why don't we just establish the fund with \$1. and transfer in next year.

D. Jodoin: You can't transfer in the money from the operating budget per DRA. and if the warrant fails, you still need money in the budget.

D. Ross: We can pay the detail out of the budget and take the income from the contractor and put it into this fund and make this \$1000 or even \$1. That way we will get the money out of the budget and into it's own revolving fund.

**M. DiBitetto motioned to amend the article to \$1.00. Seconded by J. Hyde.**

**Roll Call (on amendment)**

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	Y
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

**Voted unanimously in the affirmative.**

**Roll Call (amended article)**

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	Y
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

**Voted unanimously in the affirmative.**

**Article #20**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$49,410 (Forty-nine thousand four hundred ten dollars) for pay increases for non-union Town personnel. The pay increase will include a 2% cost of living adjustment.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Taxes &amp; Retirement</u>
2% COLA (July 1)	\$42,187	\$7,223

P. Rueppel I thought we agreed the salaries would be in the Administrative budget.

G. Longfellow stated we only motioned a 2% cola.

D. Jodoin: We only brought everyone to the current rate to equal other communities. If you put the cola in the budget and you get a default, they get nothing.

J. Hyde: This is against everything I spoke about. It shouldn't be 2% automatic every year. The wage pool model should be adopted as we discussed earlier.

**D. Ross motioned to place the article on the warrant. Seconded by S. Werksman.**

D. Ross asked about the increases in other municipalities?

D. Jodoin: Most Senate Bill 2 towns put them as a warrant article and they are done like a collective bargaining agreement so people can vote yes or no.

M. DiBitetto: How much additional money has been put in for the wage adjustment we approved?

D. Jodoin: The total adjustment was about \$50,000 for six months, not all Departments saw increases.

J. Hyde: Do you know what the total wage pool is?

D. Jodoin: If you are going to go merit based, you still must decide if it's in a warrant article or in the budget and how much will be allotted.

J. Hyde: I'm suggesting 3% is the total for the entire pool. We are operating on a zero sum gain. The pie isn't getting any bigger.

J. Hyde: I don't necessarily disapprove of the raise, I don't agree with how it's being given out.

### Roll Call

Michael DiBitetto	N
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	N
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

Motion carries 5 - 2

### SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### PUBLIC INPUT:

B. Kudrick: At Monday's meeting we talked about the wastewater expansion of the treatment plan. We tried twice to get land from the school and were turned down. We would like help from the town. The land is for future development of another treatment plan. We would like to get some conversation going for next year.

D. St. Pierre, Jr., Main Street: Came to the town for assistance with the School Board. I have two young daughters and we don't have a sidewalk in front of the house and it is difficult for them to walk on the snow and ice. I would like a letter from the Council to the School Board so the kids don't have to walk in front of the house.

J. McHugh (School Board Chair) stated that the Superintendent would look into it.

M. DiBitetto: This is a very busy road and if there is snow we don't want young children walking in that street.

D. Hemeon: I was hoping the Council would make a decision on the insurance. We would like the Council to delay this until July since the money is in the budget. This will give us time to address it.

M. DiBitetto: We can move to delay the start of the contribution to July 2007, understanding that the 20% would be effective then. We could do that without any rescinding motion.

***M. DiBitetto motioned to delay to June 30 2007 and at that time the 20% co-sharing would be effective. Seconded by P. Rueppel.***

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	N
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

Motion carries 6 - 1

*P. Rueppel motioned to extend the meeting to 9:40 pm. Seconded by S. Werksman*

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	Y
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

*S. Werksman motioned to enter in to non-public 91-a: 3 II (a). M. DiBitetto seconded.*

**Roll Call**

Michael DiBitetto	Y
James Gorton	Y
Jason Hyde	Y
David Ross	Y
Patricia Rueppel	Y
Stuart Werksman	Y
Chairman George Longfellow	Y

Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION:**

The Council exited non public session at 9:35 and voted to divulge that they had unanimously extended the Town Administrators contract for three years through July 2010.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Leeann Moynihan

Jason M. Hyde  
Town Council Secretary