TOWN OF HUDSON REGULAR MEETING

April 16, 2019

In Attendance:

Members Present: Mayor Janet Winkler, Commissioners: Larry Chapman, Jonathan Greer, Barry Mitchell, Rick Shew, Ann Smith and Bill Warren

Others Present: Town Manager, Rebecca Bentley, Chief of Police, Richard Blevins, Assistant Finance Officer, Michelle Coffey, Town Planner, Teresa Kinney, Recreation Director, Chuck Raby, Town Clerk, Tammy Swanson and Town Attorney, Carroll Tuttle

Call to Order:

Mayor Janet Winkler called the April meeting to order, and welcomed the members of the audience to the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem, Bill Warren, then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer.

Discuss/Adjust Agenda:

Janet presented the April agenda and requested the following changes:

Add: Item 5a - Report from Public Works Committee

Add: Item 7a – Discuss Continuing Our Contract with Unifour Housing Consortium

Motion: (Rick Shew/Jonathan Greer) to approve the agenda as amended. Unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes:

Larry Chapman stated that he had discussed a "typo" in the March 19th minutes with the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

Motion: (Larry Chapman/Rick Shew) to approve the minutes, as corrected, for the March 19, 2019 Regular Meeting, the March 25, 2019 Budget Work Session, and the April 2, 2019 PARTF Public Hearing. Unanimously Approved.

Set Tax Discount for the FY 2019/2020 Tax Year:

Tammy Swanson stated that each year the Board considers setting a tax discount for the upcoming tax year. Tammy explained that tax discounts are not required; however, we have several taxpayers who take advantage of the discount, and it is a good way to bring in tax revenue early. Last year's discount rate was 2% for payments received in both July and August. Tammy stated that since our taxes are typically mailed in mid-July, it works better for us to have the discount percentage the same for both July and August. The dollar amount of the discounts given for last year with a 2% discount totaled \$14,003 representing approximately \$700,150 in tax payments or 62% of the total tax levy.

Motion: (Barry Mitchell/Ann Smith) to set the tax discount rate for the 2019 Tax Year at 2% for payments received in both July and August 2019. Unanimously approved.

Report from Public Works Committee:

Public Works Committee Chairman, Larry Chapman, gave a report from the Committee Meeting that was held at 5:30 pm today, just prior to this meeting. The first item discussed was the street maintenance review. Larry stated that the Committee approved the street review process, and the ranking of the streets for the repaving schedule, with the paving going as far as the monies allotted would last. The top streets needing to be repaved were Eastview Street, Hickory Street and Elm Avenue, with minor repairs being made to other streets as necessary. Larry commented that according to Public Works Director, Norman Crump, repaving these three streets would probably take a majority of the regular paving budget allotted for paving.

Larry stated that there is one addition recommended for the paving schedule which is to pave a right-of-way that is approximately 100 ft. long as an extension of Dogwood Street. Larry explained that this extension would abut the walking trail, and would serve as an ingress/egress point for the trail. There would be a gate at the trail, and staff would have the key for the gate. The Committee recommended that the adjoining property owners of the right-of-way/extension be contacted of the plans for paving by a letter from Carroll Tuttle, and that an engineer be hired to design the extension, since there could be drainage issues, etc.

Chuck Raby stated that currently, there is no access to the trail for emergency vehicles should an accident happen on the trail. Also, having a paved access point would make maintaining and clearing the trail much easier for the Recreation Department.

Motion: (Public Works Committee) Committee Recommendations: (1) Proceed with paving the streets according to the rating system for the streets, with minor repairs being made as necessary to other streets.

(2) Pave the right-of-way access to the trail (Dogwood Street Extension) as suggested, with the adjoining property owners being notified of the paving by a letter from Carroll Tuttle. Also an engineer will be hired to design the new road since the right-of-way area will need to be constructed for proper drainage, etc. Unanimously approved.

Budget Revisions:

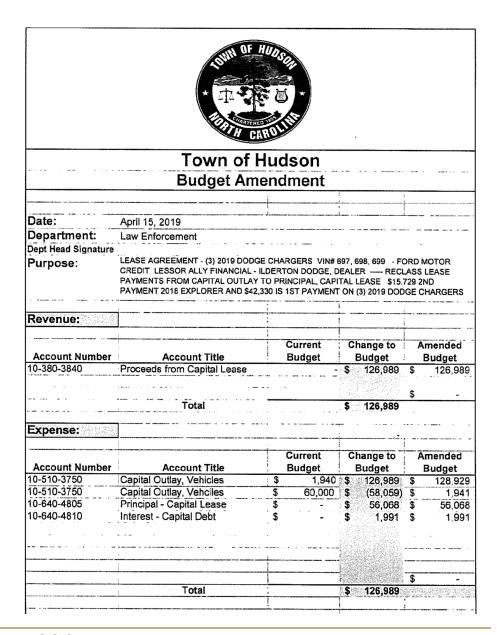
Rebecca presented the following budget revisions.

First Revision: Insurance reimbursement for the 2011 Crown Vic that was involved in an accident.

Town of Hudson								
	Budget Ar	nenc	lment					
	proper type properties to be the second of t							
Date:	April 11, 2019							
Department:	Law Enforcement							
Dept Head Signature	Insurance reimbursement / 2011 Crown Vic #732 and Repaint Exterior of PD							
Purpose:	Insurance reimbursement / 2011	Crown \	ic #732 and R/	epaint	Exterior o	FPD		
Revenue:		i						
	1	- :-	Current	Cha	nge to	Ā	mended	
Account Number	: Account Title		Budget		dget		Budget	
10-350-3342	Miscellaneous Revenue	:	26,865		2,800		29,665	
						\$	-	
	Total			\$	2,800			
Expense:								
			Current		Change to		Amended	
Account Number	Account Title		Budget	get Budget		Budget		
10-510-2180	Mtce/Rep-Truck	\$	10,000		1,800		11,800	
10-510-2150	Mtce/Rep-Grounds	\$	3,500	\$	1,000	\$	4,500	
		-						
					oret di p			
						\$		
	Total			\$	2,800			
	!			agreement interest (4) etc.			THE STREET STREET, STR	
	1							

Second Revision: Lease
Agreement for three 2019
Dodge Chargers – Re-class
Lease payments from Capital
Outlay to Principal, Capital
Lease. Rebecca explained
that the auditors had
recommended a change in
how we handle these
vehicles. Rebecca
commented that this is really
just an accounting process
change in how we account
for the vehicles.

Motion: (Ann Smith/Barry Mitchell) to approve the budget amendments as presented. Unanimously approved.



Stormwater Agreement with WPCOG:

Anthony Starr, Executive Director of the WPCOG (COG), addressed the Board to discuss the plans for stormwater management. He stated that he planned to let Alison Adams, Planning Director for the COG, explain the program because she will be dealing with the administration of the program. Anthony explained that the EPA has come down hard on the administration of this program. Lenoir no longer wanted to administer the program, so the COG has been contracted to handle the program. Anthony stated that Alison is very familiar with this type of program, which is a good thing since we are having to move fast to meet the requirements in a timely manner.

Alison addressed the Board to explained the program. She stated that the COG is handling stormwater all over the region, but she wanted to review the actual program that has been contracted with the Town.

Alison stated that the timeframe is going to require a lot of work on the COG's part. She stated that previously, Lenoir held the permit, and Hudson was a permittee. The EPA said this arrangement would

not work. All of the towns would need to be permitted. Alison commented that once the COG gets approval from the State, a Stormwater Management Plan would be officially written. The deadline is July 28, and she believes the COG is prepared to meet that goal.

Alison stated that there are 6 elements to the Plan, and she presented them as follows:

- Public Education and Outreach on Storm Water Impacts The Planning Agency will
 fulfill the education and outreach component of the permit by developing workshops;
 arranging speakers; development of school partnerships and projects; preparing outreach
 materials; and presenting to various groups and at events, and other Education Outreach
 activities as required by the NPDES Phase II Permit and outlined in the Local
 Government's Stormwater Management Plan.
- <u>Public Involvement and Participation</u> The Planning Agency will manage planning and implementation of public events for stormwater information to the general public as well as coordination of volunteer programs for stormwater programs or stream cleanups, and other Public Involvement and Participation activities as required by the NPDES Phase II Permit and outlined in the Local Government's Stormwater Management Plan.
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination The Planning Agency will conduct active
 investigation and enforcement of the Local Governments illicit discharge within the Local
 Governments jurisdiction and other Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination activities
 as required by the NPDES Phase II Permit and outlined in the Local Government's
 Stormwater Management Plan.
- <u>Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control</u> North Carolina Division of Environmental Quality is responsible for the Local Government's Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control Program. Follow-up by the Planning Agency will occur.
- Post-Construction Storm Water Management in New Development and Redevelopment The Planning Agency will manage the permitting process, annual reports, inspections, and files associated with Post Construction as required by the NPDES Phase II Permit and outlined in the Local Government's Stormwater Management Plan.
- Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations The Planning
 Agency will conduct education to Local Government employees and inspection of Local
 Government facilities for Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping activities as required
 by the NPDES Phase II Permit and outlined in the Local Government's Stormwater
 Management Plan.

Alison stated that the COG would be doing the reporting from these 6 elements on behalf of the Town. Jonathan asked if they are doing this for all areas of Caldwell County.

Alison stated that they will be doing stormwater for municipalities in Caldwell County. Alison added that they cover some municipalities in Burke County as well.

Jonathan asked if there will be a full time person hired by the COG for stormwater administration.

Alison stated that stormwater will be spread among their staff. Johnny Wear currently does the educational outreach for the program. She discussed the hiring they plan to do to administer this plan.

Jonathan asked if stormwater administration would be attached to Billy Rickles' responsibilities.

Alison stated that they would be hiring another Code Enforcement Officer. She commented that Billy would be looking after some of the elements of stormwater, but not the entire program.

Anthony stated that they do plan to hire 2 additional employees to help with the administration of the stormwater program.

Janet commented that there is money attached to the administration of the stormwater program, and as with our zoning enforcement, the COG would like to have a 2-year contract in place for stormwater. Janet added that the Town has no choice but to have a stormwater program in place.

Barry asked about the cost of the stormwater program.

Alison stated that the cost for one year is \$16,866, which covers the 6 elements. She stated that they are not charging for the Stormwater Ordinance.

Larry asked if we have an incident involving stormwater, would the COG accompany us in detecting the problem.

Alison stated that they would be accompanying us in doing whatever is needed. The cost associated with the testing will be the responsibility of the individual in violation of the regulations.

Anthony stated that most of the time, the COG will try to get state agencies to handle the big problems.

Rebecca commented that we have street drains that have been in place for over 100 years. She asked if these drains have to be mapped, and if so, is that part of the COG contract.

Alison stated that the drains do have to be mapped, and the COG is looking at ways this needs to be handled. She suggested that GIS may have access to information that can help with mapping the street drains.

Rebecca commented that she is sure things would pop up along the way that are not covered under the contract cost, and would involve additional charges to handle.

Alison stated that at this point, this program is new and will take adjustments along the way.

Rebecca stated that the Town has a garage area, and we are fortunate that we do not have a garage area where oil is changed in the vehicles, etc. However, our entire garage area is not under roof, and vehicles cannot be parked under the garage. She stated that it is her understanding from the recent stormwater meetings she has attended that garage areas are to be underroof. She asked if the Town's heavy equipment would need to be kept underroof.

Alison stated that she is not sure at this point. She commented that as the stormwater plan is developed, we will learn a lot more about what is required.

Anthony stated that since the State is shifting stormwater around, there will be more changes, with more rounds of requirements along the way.

Rebecca stated that we are fortunate to have the early college and the technical college students in Hudson who could be involved with community service projects and monitoring our creeks. She added that we have been doing educational programs on a small scale with school age children. Rebecca commented that

having the community involved with the stormwater program is important, and she voiced concerns that Billy may be overloaded with keeping up with both code enforcement and stormwater.

Anthony stated that the COG contracts are being priced to hire additional staff.

Rebecca asked if stormwater enforcement would come before July.

Anthony stated that stormwater enforcement would not come before July.

Rebecca stated that we are a small town with a small budget, and we cannot do a lot with stormwater. She stated that she wants the Board to understand that the regulation of stormwater is a federal mandate that is going to cost us money, and now is the time we may need to think about charging a stormwater fee.

Alison stated she used to work in Huntersville, N.C., and they have a utility fee. These fees are used to repair infrastructure and repairs to streams. She added that there is also a fee that could be set for developers who would be creating the issues.

Rebecca commented that for most of the stormwater violations, the fee cannot be tied to a developer.

Janet stated that since this is so new, we will all be learning as we go. She commented that we have to remember this is mandated. She said that what she is hearing from the COG is that we are all in a time crunch, and something has to be done now.

Barry stated that we have a lot of roads in the county that are state roads, and he asked if this will be shared with the state.

Anthony stated that there is a difference, such as curb and guttering, etc. He stated that the NCDOT and the State have responsibilities; however, these responsibilities are not applicable to rural areas – only municipalities.

Rebecca asked if this also includes the ETJ area.

Anthony stated that it does cover the ETJ area; however, the mapping will not include the ETJ.

Larry asked if any COG area municipalities are charging a stormwater fee.

Anthony stated that he is not aware of any at this time.

Alison stated that it is her understanding that Dallas, N.C. located outside of Gastonia, charges a stormwater fee.

Janet stated again that because of time constraints, we need to vote on the stormwater agreement with the COG.

Jonathan asked if Carroll had reviewed the agreement.

Carroll stated that he had briefly reviewed the agreement.

Motion: (Rick Shew/Larry Chapman) to approve the two-year agreement with the WPCOG for administration of the stormwater program. Unanimously approved.

(A copy of the agreement is attached.)

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WESTERN PIEDMONT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND THE TOWN OF HUDSON FOR ASSISTANCE IN SUPPORTING THE WESTERN PIEDMONT STORMWATER PARTNERSHIP JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2021

This AGREEMENT, to be effective on the 1st day of July, 2019, by and between the Western Piedmont Council of Governments (hereinafter referred to as the "Planning Agency") and the Town of Hudson, North Carolina (hereinafter referred to as the "Local Government");

WITNESSETH THAT:

WHEREAS, the Local Government is required to provide adequate staffing and funding to support the NPDES Phase II six minimum measures, including Stormwater Public Education and Outreach, Public Involvement and Participation, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control, Post-Construction Storm Water Management in New Development and Redevelopment, and Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations. ("Stormwater Partnership" hereinafter); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Agency is empowered to provide technical assistance to local governments by the North Carolina General Statutes and by resolution passed by the Planning Agency on April 17, 1972; and

WHEREAS, the Local Government has requested the Planning Agency to provide such technical assistance to support the NPDES Phase II six minimum measures through a Stormwater Partnership and;

WHEREAS, the Planning Agency desires to cooperate with the Local Government in providing technical assistance and services and that the proposed assistance and services are carried out in an efficient and professional manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto do mutually agree as follows:

- 1. <u>Scope of Services.</u> The Planning Agency will provide technical assistance to the Western Piedmont Stormwater Partnership. Technical assistance shall consist of the services described in EXHIBIT A, which is incorporated more fully by reference herein.
- 2. <u>Personnel.</u> The Planning Agency will furnish the necessary trained personnel to the Local Government.
- 3. <u>Office/Equipment.</u> The Planning Agency will provide office space, miscellaneous office supplies, office equipment, software, and hardware necessary to perform the

work described in this contract.

- 4. <u>Compensation.</u> The Local Government will pay the Planning Agency a regional Stormwater Partnership fee for services provided as part of the Agreement as outlined in Exhibit A. The Town of Hudson's calculated Stormwater Partnership fee for the period beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2021 is not to exceed \$33,772 (thirty-three thousand seven hundred and seventy-two dollars). These fees will be billed in twenty-four equal monthly payments of \$1,407.17 (one thousand four hundred and seven dollars and seventeen cents).
- 5. Non-salary Expenses. (a) The Planning Agency personnel's local travel mileage will be considered to be a part of the Scope of Work as outlined in Exhibit A.
 - (b) The Stormwater Partnership will pay for personnel's travel expenses related to attendance of conferences, conventions, and seminars if the events are related to the development of the Stormwater Partnership's program. Travel expenses shall include registration fees, hotel expenses, meals, and mileage. The Stormwater Partnership will pay for hotel, meals, and mileage costs at the prevailing local government rate.
- 6. <u>Termination/Modifications.</u> The Local Government may terminate the Contract by giving the Planning Agency a thirty-day written notice. Furthermore, if there is a need to amend the proposal outlined in Attachment A, either party may do so with the written consent of the other.
- 7. <u>Time of Performance</u>. The Planning Agency shall ensure that all services required herein shall be completed during the period beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2021.
- 8. Interest of Members, Officers, or Employees of the Planning Agency, Members of the Local Government, or Other Public Officials. No member, officer, or employee of the Planning Agency or its agents; no member of the governing body of the locality in which the program is situated; and no other public official of such locality or localities who exercises any functions or responsibilities with respect to the program during his tenure or for one year thereafter, shall have any financial interest, either direct or indirect, in any contract or subcontract, or the proceeds thereof, for work to be performed in connection with the program assisted under this Agreement. Immediate family members of said members, officers, employees, and officials are similarly barred from having any financial interest in the program. The Planning Agency shall incorporate or cause to be incorporated in all such contracts or subcontracts, a provision prohibiting such interest pursuant to the purpose of this section.

- 9. <u>Nondiscrimination Clause.</u> No person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination with any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds available under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Section 109.
- 10. Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended. No qualified person shall on the basis of age be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity which receives or benefits from federal financial assistance.
- 11. <u>Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.</u> No qualified handicapped person shall, on the basis of handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity which receives or benefits from federal financial assistance.

Discuss Continuing Our Contract with Unifour Housing Consortium:

Janet stated that Rick Oxford, Unifour Home Program Director for the WPCOG, has asked if the Town would like to continue to participate in the Housing Consortium program. Janet stated that there is no fee connected with this service that COG offers, and they do a wonderful job.

Rebecca stated that the Consortium receives funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development under the HOME Program to address housing needs of low income families. She commented that the Town has been a member of the Consortium HOME Program since its inception in 1995.

Rebecca stated that local governments hold memberships in the Consortium through a 3-year agreement, and it is time to renew the agreement.

Motion: (Ann Smith/Bill Warren) to continue the Town's membership in the Unifour Consortium HOME Program for the next three years (2020-2022). Unanimously approved.

Resolution to Adopt Revised 10-Year System Wide Parks & Recreation Plan:

Erin Schotte, Community & Economic Development Administrator for the WPCOG, discussed the 10-Year System Wide Parks and Recreation Plan. She stated that she along with Chuck and Rebecca sat down with our PARTF representative, and discussed suggestions on how the grant application could be improved.

Erin stated that last year, we had high quality public input, but the number of surveys fell short. Erin commented that Chuck did a great job in getting more surveys, which is now at 63. There were approximately 300 surveys handed out, and our response rate was 20%. Erin commented that there was not a lot of change in the outcome of the additional surveys.

Erin stated that there is a lot of community support for the facility, but she felt like we really hadn't told the story. With this in mind, she included history of the Park with this application.

Erin stated that the last change was to Appendix B. She stated that she changed this section out, and replaced it with a report on the services that will be provided by the Park that will not be duplicated, specifically not at Optimist Park.

Motion: (Jonathan Greer/Rick Shew) to approve the resolution adopting the revised Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Plan and the Site Specific Master Plan for Optimist Park as presented. Unanimously approved.

The resolution was adopted as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 4/19 #5

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE REVISED TOWN OF HUDSON COMPREHENSIVE PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN AND THE SITE SPECIFIC MASTER PLAN FOR OPTIMIST PARK

WHEREAS, the Town of Hudson has partnered with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments to create a Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan designed to reflect the needs and desires of the Town and of its citizens as related to future parks and recreation planning within the town limits; and

WHEREAS, funding partners have recommended additional information to include within the adopted plans; and

WHEREAS, the result of those discussions is the revised "Town of Hudson Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan" presented to the Council this date for review, a copy of which shall be on permanent file in the Hudson Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, the revised Site Specific Master Plan for Optimist Park is included as Appendix A of the Town of Hudson Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Hudson, North Carolina, that the "Town of Hudson Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan" and the "Site Specific Master Plan for Optimist Park", as presented, are hereby adopted and that the Board of Commissioners hereby expresses its intent that such document be used henceforth as a reference in the creation of all ordinances, rules, and regulations to the extent they each may impact the parks and recreation facilities for the Town of Hudson.

READ, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 16th day of April, 2019.

Vanet Winkler, Mayor

Town of Hudson

Tammy Swanson, Town Clerk

Town of Hudson

Chuck stated that we are obviously going to have to do fundraising for the Optimist Park project, and he had an idea for a fundraiser. He suggested that the Town start a Hudson Walk of Fame at Optimist Park and explained that the Walk would be made with bricks bearing the names of people who participated in sports at the Park. Chuck commented that it would be done much like the memorial walk in Windmill Park and at the Veterans Memorial at HUB Station. Chuck stated that he planned to charge \$100 per brick, and he already has several people interested in purchasing bricks.

Chuck stated that Mike Norris at McGill & Associates is working on a rendering of the Walk which he plans to construct near the step area at the Park. He stated that the Walk would be done after the Park renovations are complete.

Chuck commented that people have asked if more than one person's name can be put on a brick. Chuck stated that he planned to limit selling the bricks to a 3-year window, so he preferred that there be only one name per brick.

Motion: (Rick Shew/Larry Chapman) to give permission to proceed with the Walk of Fame Fundraiser. Unanimously approved.

Informal Comment & Public Comment:

- **Town Receives CAFR** Janet stated that we again have received the CAFR for the 26th consecutive year. Janet commended the Staff for continuing to do a good job looking after the money!
- March of Cross Good Friday, April 19th Rain or Shine. Janet asked for a "phone tree" message to be sent out to remind everyone of the upcoming events.
- Redwood Park Easter Egg Hunt Police Dept. Child Safety Seat Drive/Drug Take Back Program -Saturday, April 20th at 10:00 a.m.
- **Cruise-In** Friday, May 3rd 5:00 pm -8:00 pm
- NC Butterfly Festival May 4th 9am 4pm Rain or Shine Entertainment Johnny White and the Elite Band 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm. If it rains, the concert will be moved from Windmill Park to HUB Station. Bill Warren commented that the Town Staff has been very involved with organizing the Festival this year, and he thanked everyone for their help.
- **Dinner Theater Comments** Keith compiled a report from the comment cards. He included the "good" and the "bad."
- **Budget Work Session** Tuesday, April 23rd at 6:00 pm at Town Hall
- **Wal-Mart Grant awarded to HCDA** used to purchase tents for the Festival. Rebecca stated that the tents were personalized for HCDA, and because of the grant, were absolutely free to HCDA
- Wal-Mart Grant awarded to Police Department Richard stated that the Police Department received a \$2,000 grant from Wal-Mart, which allowed him to replaced 5 body cameras and purchase a tent. Richard stated that he was very grateful for the support Wal-Mart shows the community by awarding these grants.
- The Passing of 2 Hudson Icons: Bob Keen & Rick McRary—Rebecca stated that we recently lost Bob Keen, a former Town Commissioner, and Rick McRary, a member of our Bike and Ped. Committee. Rebecca commented that both of these men were very involved in the Hudson community, and she asked the we remember their families in our thoughts and prayers.

Adjournment:	
Motion: (Larry Chapman/Bill Warren) to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously approved.	

Tamra T. Swanson, Town Clerk

April 16, 2019 Regular Meeting