MINUTES

SECRET BALLOT ELECTION

&

TOWN MEETING WARRANT

FRIDAY MARCH 19TH, 2021 &

SATURDAY, MARCH 20TH, 2021

To Kevin Chessa, Citizen of the Town of Hudson in the County of Penobscot, State of Maine,

GREETINGS:
In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hudson in said Penobscot County, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Municipal Office and Community Center at 2150 Hudson Road in said Town on Friday, the 19th day of March 2021, at 9:45 A.M., then and there to act upon Art. 1:

Art. 1. To choose a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting. R. Gilman made motion to appoint John Whitehouse 2nd. Q. Hurst. N. Veazie made motion to appoint B. Willette R. Randall 2nd. Vote by secret ballot. L. Saunders swore in D. Miles to be the ballot clerk for this part of the election process. D. Miles counted the ballots and the Vote was 25-20 with J. Whitehouse winning as the moderator. J. Whitehouse chose L. Nichols to be his Deputy Moderator. L. Saunders Swore both in.

For election of officers, the polls will open at 10:00 A.M. on the 19th of March 2021 then and there to act upon Art. 2 by secret ballot:

Art. 2. To elect by secret ballot: two (2) Selectmen, to serve a three year term, one (1) member for RSU 64 school board, to serve a three year term. Derek Goddard and Roger Gray were the 2 winners for Select Board Members and Amy Bean won for the School Board.

After the polls close at 8:00 P.M. on the same day, the meeting will recess until 10 A.M. on the 20th of March 2021, at which time the following articles will be acted upon: J. Whitehouse forgot to close the polls so they stayed open all night. T. Read made motion to be able to have none members of the Town to speak. J. Whitehouse oked this. L. Saunders raised hand and told J. Whitehouse that he did not recess the night before and said she was supposed to open the meeting back up, then hand it over to him. L.Saunders did the pledge of allegience and then handed the meeting back over to J. Whitehouse.

Art. 3. To see if the Town will elect a **Budget Committee** of nine (9) to confer with the

Selectmen at the end of the 2021 fiscal year and to make recommendations for several appropriations, said appropriations to be printed in the 2021 Annual Town Report. D. Nichols nominated the following 9

1)Dan Heathcote	6)Richard Gilman
2)Laura Hurst	7)Katheryn Allen
3)Ruth Trask	8)Lorraine Goddard
4)Kristin Goddard	9)Rick Trench
5)Lisa Nichols	

David Poll 2nd Nominations

N. Veazie nominates the following in addition to the first 9

1) Dean Gray 2)Wayne Collins 3) Tim Moores

Milissa Smart Nominates Thomas Read also.

The following were voted in:

1)Dan Heathcote	4)Lisa Nichols	7)Tim Moores
2)Ruth Trask	5)Dean Gray	8)Lorraine Goddard
3)Kristin Goddard	6)Richard Gilman	9)Rick Trench

Art. 4 To see if the Town will vote to increase the **Property Tax Levy Limit** of $262,674.64 established for the Town of Hudson by state law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following Articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that tax levy limit. (This must be voted on by written ballot). D. Grant made motion to accept. 2nd R. Gray Discussion- none Vote-passed with a vote-43 Yes 3 No.

Art. 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $108,860 for **Administration Compensation**. ($100,057 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes & 8,803. recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). Motion D. Grant made motion to accept as written. 2nd N. Veazie Discussion-L. Nichols wanted break down of who made what. J. Whitehouse went over information L. Saunders gave to him. Vote- passed.

Art. 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $56,934 for the **Administration Account.** ($56,934 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes). D. Grant made motion to accept 2nd R. Gray. Discussion- none- Vote- passed.

Art. 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to appropriate $15,000 as they deem advisable to meet **unanticipated expenses and emergencies** that occur during fiscal year 2021. ($15,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). G. Libby made motion to accept as written 2nd T. Read. Discussion- none- Vote-passed.

Art. 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $12,500 for **Town Office Upgrades.** ($12,500 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). R. Gray made

motion to accept as written 2nd G. Libby. Discussion- R. Gilman wanted an explanation of what this would entail. L. Saunders explained what it was for. L. Saunders also stated this should help with the glitches that we have been having. Vote-passed.

Art. 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $19,702.32 for the **Assessor's Agent.** ($19,702.32 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes).L. Lilley made motion to accept as written. N. Veazie 2nd. Discussion- none- Vote- passed.

Art. 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $1,000 for **Town Maps**. (This is a carry forward account ($8,581)) ($1,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). R. Gilman made motion to accept as written. D. Heathcote 2nd. Discussion- D. Heathcote asked who did our maps and when the last time they were done. D. Grant stated he was not sure but they were done a few years ago, and that D. Davis takes care of the map. Vote-passed.

Art. 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $12,000.00 for the **Code Enforcement Officer.** ($8,000.00 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes & $4,000.00 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). D. Grant made motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion-none-Vote-passed.

Art. 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $100 for the **Health Officer.** ($100 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes). R. Gray made motion to accept as written. D. Grant 2nd.Discussion- K. Goddard asks what it was the Health Officer does. D. Grant stated whatever the Town needed her to do to keep town up to date on health issues. Vote- passed.

Art. 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $200 for the **Constable** ($200 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes). L. Lilley made motion to accept as written. T. Read 2nd. Discussion-none- Vote-passed.

Art. 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $7,500 **Legal Affairs.** ($6,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes & $1,500 recommended from Budget Committee from Fund Balance). R. Gray made motion to accept as written. D. Grant 2nd. Discussion-none- Vote-passed.

Art. 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $17,000 for **Municipal Office and Community Center.** ($10,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes, $7,000 recommended by Budget Committee from Fund Balance). L. Lilley made motion to accept as written. N. Veazie 2nd. Discussion-L.Hurst wanted to know what this money was going to be used for. D. Grant stated cleaning, utilites, salt & sand, mowing etc..- Vote-passed.

Art. 16. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use up to the sum of $51,891.83 of funds previously allocated to the **Building Reserve Fund** for improvements to town owned buildings for repairs and upgrades.(This is a carry forward account ($50,922)) ($51,891.83 recommended by the Budget Committee from the Building Reserve Fund).This article was amended as the carry forward only had $50,922.00. D. Grant made motion to accept the amended article. R. Gilman 2nd. Discussion-L.Hurst wants to know what this is for and states

she does not think this will be enough and thinks we should get more. -Vote passed on the amendment.

Art. 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $78,300 for the **Fire Department**. ($65,300 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes, and $13,000 recommended by Budget Committee from Fund Balance). T. Read made motion to accept all of the article as written. G. Libby 2nd. Discussion-L. Lilley states we need to really think about the future and what it will cost. D. Heathcote wants to know if their are any grants available. Vote-passed.

Fire Department Services	36,150
(*The above is a carry forward account.*)	
Fire Department Administration	8,150
Fire Station	13,000
Firefighter Reimbursement Fund	8,000
501 Pump Repair	7,000
Cascade System Repair	6,000

Art. 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $15,000 for the **Fire Department Capital Improvement Fund.** (This is a carry forward account $8,352)) ($15,000 Recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). R. Gray made motion to accept as written. T. Read 2nd. Discussion-J. Lilley discussed what the trucks are going for now and states we need to start saving for our future. J. Lilley states there is some grants, but they are drying up quick. S. Ludwig wants to know what the $15,000 is going to be used for. L. Hurst states that the Fire Dept. is not asking for enough. Vote- passed.

Art.19. To see if the Town of Hudson will authorize the **Fire Department to borrow up to $90,000 to purchase a new fire truck**. G. Libby makes motion to accept as written.T. Read 2nd. Discussion- D. Nichols states clearly this is not enough to get the truck. L.Lilley states that this is for the Brush truck. T. Lilley asked if parts from the old truck will be for the new truck. J. Lilley states this is for the chasse. D. Nichols states he will be using as much off the old truck to save as much money as he can. D. Heathcote wanted to know if the truck is going to purchased locally. J. Lilley states he will be buying the chasse from Quirks. J. Lilley states all work will be done from a dealer so it will all be done under warranty. Vote- passed.

Art. 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $200 to the **Community Closet**. ($200 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes). R. Gray makes motion to accept as written. T. Read 2nd Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $10,000 for **G&H Ambulance Service.** ($10,000 Recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). T. Read makes motion to accept as written. G. Libby 2nd. Discussion-none- Vote-passed.

Art. 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $4,000 for **Animal Control.** (This is a carry forward account ($3,533)) ($4,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from

Property Taxes; and to appropriate any animal control fees). G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. D. Grant 2nd. Discussion-none- Vote-passed.

Art. 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $3,500 for **Street Lights.** ($3,500 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes). G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. L. Lilley 2nd. Discussion-none-Vote- passed.

Art. 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $500 for **US Flags** to be flown in the Town of Hudson. This is a carry forward account. ($500 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance; and to appropriate any donations for flags to the flag account). R. Gilman makes motion to accept as written. G. Libby 2nd. Discussion-none-Vote-passed.

Art. 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $500 for **Flags Coordinator** ($500 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). G.Libby makes motion to accept as written. R. Trask 2nd. Discussion- L. Lilley wants to know what a Flag Coordinator is. He asks why we want to pay someone when B. Grant did it for nothing. D.Goddard states that D. Poll will volunteer to do this for **zero dollars**. B. Grant makes motion to change the dollar amount to **zero** and vote on the amended article. Vote-passed.

Art. 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $53,000 for the **Town Maintenance Department.** ($46,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes & **$7,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance).** R. Gray made motion to accept as written. G. Libby 2nd. Discussion- none- Vote-passed.

Art. 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $10,000 for **Equipment Maintenance. ($10,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Excise Taxes).** G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. N. Veazie 2nd. Discussion -none. Vote- passed.

Art. 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $15,000 for **Capitol Equipment Fund.** (This will be a carry forward account ($9,490)) ($15,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance.) L. Lilley made motion to accept as written. D. Grant 2nd. Discussion- none. Vote passed.

Art. 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $200,000 for **Snow Removal.** ($200,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Excise Taxes). D. Grant makes motion to accept as written. D. Heathcote 2nd. Discussion - L. Hurst states she feels this is not enough money. R. Gray states this is an increase. D. Poll wanted to know why it was over. D. Grant states in 2019/2020 sand/salt was more then anticipated. L. Nichols asked if this was the year that we upped a new contract. D. Granted stated yes it is. K. Goddard states that plowing was not good and is going to bring to a select board meeting. D. Heathcote asks what equiptment is being used from ABS. D. Grant states what equipment is being used and states it is part of the contract. Vote-passed.

Art. 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $130,000 for **Town Road Repair.** ($50,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Excise Taxes & $80,000 from Fund Balance). N. Veazie makes motion to accept as written. T. Read 2nd. Discussion- L. Hurst wants to know what this money is used for. N. Veazie states this is going to be for the big project that is coming up on Whitmore Landing. The culvert issue and the paving of the road if there is

enough money. Vote-passed.

Art. 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $7,000 for upkeep of the **Cemeteries**. (This is a carry forward account ($4,534)) ($3,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes & $4,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance; and to appropriate perpetual care interest fund amounts). G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 32. To see if the Town will **Accept Cemetery Trust Funds** to be used for the upkeep of the Town Cemeteries. G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion-none- Vote-passed.

Art. 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $12,000 for the **Town Garage.** ($5,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes, $2,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Excise Taxes, and $5000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion-none- Vote-passed.

Art. 34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $20,000 for maintenance and operation of the **Town Transfer Station.** ($20,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes and to appropriate to this account 2021 fees acquired through bag income, recycling, and demolition). G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion- L. Hurst asks why this was over and wanted to know how much it costs. D. Grant states what has to be done to fix this account. Vote-passed.

Art. 35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $500 for **Septic Disposal.** ($500 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes). G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion- none- Vote-passed.

Art. 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $2,000 for **Support of the Poor.** (This is a carry forward account ($2,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes; and to appropriate/subsidize with state share, if any). G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion- none- Vote-passed.

Art. 37. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $430 for the **Dirigo Boys & Girls State Programs**. ($430 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes). G. Libby makes motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion- T. Read wants to know why we can't put this with article 39 D. Grant states he will look into it. Vote-passed.

Art. 38. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $1,500 for the **Mike Lamerou Scholarship Fund** for graduating high school seniors from Hudson who have been town residents for one year or more. (This is a carry forward account ($6,971)) ($1,500 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance and to appropriate 2021 donations made to the scholarship fund to this account). R. Gilman made motion to accept as written. D. Heathcote 2nd. Discussion- D. Heathcote wanted to know if this was just for the Hudson Kids. D. Miles stated yes. Vote-passed.

Art. 39. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $2,395 for the following **Social Service Agencies.** ($2,395 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes). G. Libby made motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion-none- Vote- passed.

Community Health & Counseling Services	92
Penquis Community Action Programs	792
Safe Place Food Pantry	500
Good Samaritan Food Pantry	500
United Cerebral Palsy	40
Red Cross	75
Eastern Area Agency on Aging	150
Bangor Area Visiting Nurses	96
Life Flight of Maine	100
Health Equity Alliance	50

Art. 40. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $15,000 for **Parks and Recreation.** (This is a carry forward account ($21,757)) ($10,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes and $5,000 recommended by Budget Committee from Fund Balance). G. Libby made motion to accept as written. T. Read 2nd. Discussion- T. Lacombe-Stevens stated that she understands out of town residence are bringing there children to the summer rec. and pay nothing. K.Gray explained how the summer program works and no out of town kids come to rec. D. Heathcote wanted to know about the surplus that is in the account. D. Gray explained why and what the money was used for. D. Nichols asked about the Hall rentals. D. Nichols wanted to know how often and how much rental was. He also wanted to know how much isas in the account for this. D. Gray stated none this past year, but at times we could get up to $1500.00 which goes back into the account. Vote-passed.

Art. 41. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to $750 for the **Hudson Lake Water Quality Fund**. Funds dispersed to Greater Pushaw Lake Association upon receipt and request of Committee.(Up to $750 recommended by the Budget Committee from Property Taxes). D. Grant made motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion-none- Vote-passed.

Art. 42. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the money received from the State for registration of snowmobiles to the **Pushaw Lake Snowmobile Association** for the maintenance of their network of snowmobile trails on the condition that those trails are open to the public in snow season for outdoor recreation purposes at no charge. *($741.44 received for the 2020 State of Maine Snowmobile Refund).* D. Grant made motion to accept as written. T. Read 2nd. Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 43. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Selectmen to enter into contracts and lease agreements** in accordance with approved budget appropriations as voted on at this Annual Town Meeting. D.Grant made motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 44. To see if the Town will vote to **authorize the Selectmen to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount** in each budget category of the 2021 annual budget during

the period from January 1, 2022 to the 2022 annual Town Meeting. T. Read made motion to accept as written. B. Grant 2nd. Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 45. To see if the Town will vote to **authorize the Selectmen to accept funds or gifts on behalf of any town-sponsored organization** that may be provided from outside sources if the Selectmen determine the fund or gift is in the best interest of the Town. D. Grant made motion to accept as written. B. Grant 2nd. Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 46. To see if the Town will vote to **authorize the Selectmen to, within the confines allowed by statute, spend funds or gifts on behalf of any town-sponsored organization** that may be provided from outside sources if the Selectmen determine the fund or gift is in the best interest of the Town. R. Gray made motion to accept as written. B. Grant 2nd. Discussion- D. Heathcote wanted to know how this was used. D. Grant states how and what this is used for and J. Whitehouse states that if this is not passed this article will have to wait until next Town Meeting. Vote-passed.

Art. 47. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Selectmen and the Treasurer to borrow monies in anticipation of tax receipts on behalf of the Town**. R. Gray made motion to accept as written. T. Read 2nd. Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 48. To see if the Town will authorize the **Selectmen to sell and convey real estate** acquired by the Town under tax liens,with the exception of property tax-acquired from certain senior, low-income taxpayers who qualify for the sale process required pursuant to 36 M. R.S.A. § 943-C. Once a property has become town property due to delinquent taxes, the selectmen shall sell the property back to the previous owner for delinquent taxes plus interest and fees. The repayment schedule to be negotiated on a case by case basis with the town. After all attemps to sell back the property to the previous owners have been exhausted, the selectmen shall advertise the availability of the property in the Town newsletter as well as other publications. L. Hurst makes motion to accept as written. T. Lacombe-Stevens 2nd. Discussion- D. Heathcote asked if this would be effective from this point forward. D. Grant states how it works now. Vote-passed.

Art. 49. To see if the Town will authorize the **Selectmen to sell or dispose of Town-owned personal property** with a value of Ten Thousand dollars ($10,000) or less. Any property over said amount will only be sold upon the approval vote of the Town. T. Read makes motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion-none Vote-passed.

Art. 50. To see if the Town will authorize the tax collector or treasurer to **accept prepayments of taxes** not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. §506. R. Gilman makes motion to accept as written. R. Gray 2nd. Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 51. To see if the Town will **fix the date when property taxes shall be due.** (Suggested date: Taxes are due on the mailing date of the property tax bill, and interest begins to accrue 30 days after that date). D. Grant made motion to accept as written. T. Read 2nd. Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 52. To see if the Town will **fix a rate of interest to be charged on property**

taxes unpaid after their due date pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. §505(4) (Suggested: interest rate of 6.00% annually). D. Grant made motion to accept as written. R. Gilman 2nd. Discussion-D. Nichols states 6% is too much. D. Grant states this is fair. D. Nichols makes motion to amend to 4%. D. Poll 2nd. Vote for Amend article-passed.

Art. 53. To see if the Town will vote to **set the interest rate to be paid by the town on prepaid** abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. §506-A (Suggested: interest rate of 3% annually). D. Grant makes motion to accept as written. T. Read 2nd. Discussion-none. Vote-passed.

Art. 54. To see if the town will vote to appropriate **overlay to cover any 2021 abatement** requests expenses approved by the Selectmen. D. Grant makes motion to accept as written. B.Grant 2nd. Discussion-none-Vote-passed.

Art. 55. To see if the town will **vote to authorize the board of Selectmen to purchase the land, road to the Town Garage, and Transfer Station** in the amount of $22,000 with an additonal $3,000 for the closing and lawyer fees. ($25,000 recommended by the Budget Committee from Fund Balance). D. Grant makes motion to accept as written. R.Gray 2nd. Discussion- D. Nichols wants to know why we need to purchase. N. Veazie states that the Town Garage was built on someone else's property. We will get 6.1-6.2 acres which gives the Town a buffer. L. Nichols wants to know how long the garage has been on the property like this. N. Veazie believes it was 1987 is when the garage was here. R. Gilman makes motion to have this article done by secret ballot. R. Trask 2nd. Vote on secret ballot-passed. Secret Ballot Vote-26 yes. 12 no. Vote-passed.

J. Alexander made motion to adjourn meeting. T. Gray 2nd. meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.