CHARGE TO THE NEW FIRE STATION FEASIBILITY STUDY COMMITTEE

At the Special Town Meeting on Oct. 25, 2021, voters approved Article 10 to fund the expanded Fire Station Feasibility Study for a new Fire Station on the existing site or another site.

To accomplish this work, the Select Board will appoint a New Fire Station Feasibility Study Committee consisting of five (5) voting members. The Fire Chief and Building and Facilities Manager, or their designatees, will serve as ex-officio, non-voting members. The Town Administrator will procure design services of a licensed professional to assist the Committee with the completion of the Feasibility Study.

As this will be a multi-year effort, the work of the New Fire Station Feasibility Study Committee is proposed to be completed in phases. The following are tasks to be completed in phase one and focus on identifying potential alternative locations for a new Fire Station.

1. Develop a timeline for completion of the work and submission of an interim report to the Board by March 31, 2022. This timeline should include monthly updates to the Board and identify milestones to ensure timely action by the Board.

2. Review the written background information included in the report by the Architectural Design firm engaged by the Town to conduct the Feasibility Study for the renovation and/or addition to the existing Fire Station with respect to the work completed under Milestone 1; space needs and existing site constraints.

3. Identify at least three alternative sites for further study taking into account factors including emergency response times; minimum property size needed; site access for vehicles and pedestrians; availability of parking; availability and proximity to, and adequacy of, public utilities; and compatibility with existing land uses on surrounding parcels; the existence of tenants or occupants of the property; and the relative ease or difficulty of permitting the project at the proposed property.

4. Document the review process that is used by the Committee to evaluate potential properties and develop information materials for public education and distribution.

5. Present the interim report and recommendations, as approved by the Board, to the May 2022 Annual Town Meeting for consideration.

Committee tasks for subsequent phases will be developed for review and approval by the Select Board to align the Committee charge with the scope of work approved under Article 10 that also included the development of two building models and refinement of the chosen conceptual design.

The Committee will conduct their meetings in accordance with the Open Meeting Law and submit minutes to the Town Clerk’s Office within 30 days of each meeting.

Date Presented: November 17, 2021
Date Approved: November 17, 2021