

# MINUTES

## TUFTONBORO PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES COMMITTEE

### March 9, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Chairman Pike at the Selectmen's Office in the Town Hall.

Members Present: Evans, Frago, Knapp, LaPolla, Pike and Young. Member Lawton arrived approximately 15 minutes into the meeting.

Members Absent: Eaton

Others Present: Selectmen Sundquist, Duffy, and Stockman, Police Chief Shagoury, and Fire Lt. Pike. This meeting was being recorded on video, and there were several members of the public present.

The minutes of the February 16, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Chairman Pike discussed that, as this meeting was called at the request of the Selectmen, he would ask them to open the meeting with questions.

A general discussion then followed about the Progress Report previously submitted by the Committee, and in particular the 4 options proposed in that report. The Selectmen noted that even option 1, "Doing Nothing", would still require funds to upgrade the existing facilities for improvements needed immediately. Mr. Duffy commented that the feedback he's getting from the public is that the people want a stand-alone Fire Dept., with any changes to the Police Dept. to be considered at a later date.

Several members of the Committee emphasized that the drawings provided so far were only preliminary and conceptual. They are not an architect's final detailed plans, and the Committee is well aware that they contain errors and need to be redone. In particular, the expansion of the existing Police Dept. back toward the Cemetery is not workable. This work has been held up pending funding becoming available to do this.

All agreed that any discussion of converting the existing Library to a stand-alone Police Dept. should wait until after Town Meeting, which will determine if the building will become available for this, or any other use.

On the subject of the Gould vs. Dearborn property for a new building, many favored the Gould property as a more suitable and larger plot, that would allow room for future expansion. It was discussed that the Committee will proceed with proposals, without specifying which lot at this time.

Mr. Lawton reminded all that the cost of insurance is not based on how close a home or business is to a Fire Station, but on ratings based on hydrants, and other factors. He will

put together more information on this point. The Committee DID look at expanding the existing Melvin Village and Mirror Lake Stations, but there is simply not enough land available without acquiring land from an abutter, and those discussions never went anywhere. Mr. Duffy proposed the Selectmen approach one of the abutters when practical about this subject.

Ms. Sundquist noted that the Dearborn Property funding has approximately \$94,000 of non-lapsing funds available for the "Preliminary Design of a Public Safety Facility". The Selectmen approved the use of up to \$5,500. of those funds to revise and complete the concept drawings, which should be done under a contract. Chairman Pike estimated the work would be complete in approximately 2 months.

The Committee and the Selectmen discussed whether the Selectmen should present the Progress Report, or at least parts of it, at Town Meeting. The Selectmen will ask the Moderator if this is appropriate. A future newspaper article was also considered. Mr. Young was asked to promptly forward a copy of the Progress Report to the Town Admin. Secretary.

At this point, Chairman Guy Pike rose and announced his resignation from the Committee to the Selectmen. He then left the room.

The Committee agreed that a meeting as soon as possible will be needed to discuss events and to elect a new Chairman. The date was set for Monday, March 16, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Old Town House.

Adjournment was moved and approved at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Tom Young  
Committee Member