

Future Facilities Workshop

NOTES

May 16, 2022

Present: Jesse Peters, Susan Peters, Matt Nielsen, Paul Giddinge, Paul Schumann, Marcia Bowen, Dick Hogue, Patrick Fairbanks

Select Board: Jon Morris, Andy O'Brien, Town Administrator/Notetaker: Becky Taylor-Chase

GENERAL COMMENTS / DISCUSSION

1. Andy O'Brien suggests that a warrant article for Town Meeting be created to contract with North Star Planning for \$25,000 for consultanting/professional assistance.
2. At this point, we aren't sure North Star can do it. Maybe we put out a RFP to see what professional services may be available?
3. It was suggested that we be look at a 10 – 20 year timeline. It was asked if it really will be essential to look this far to the future?
4. Should the \$25,000 be raised from taxation or taken from surplus? It makes sense and might be more readily approved if taken from surplus and it would benefit us to have this professional service and to build a relationship with the organization.
5. Jon Morris reported that both Durham and New Gloucester welcomes visits and a suggestion for Wednesday nights (after Memorial Day) would be a good time. June 8 for New Gloucester and June 15 for Durham.
6. Are we building new facilities for now and make them expandable or do we build for the future?
7. The Town has acquired land and a deed with the idea to build a fire station. Was this only to be used for a fire station? There is a provision on the deed, we will need to research this and get a copy of the deed.
8. Jon Morris stated that he has been exploring other properties, one consideration may be the lot across from Short Stop.
9. Should we determine what we need for buildings then look for land? Or do we pick a piece of land that offers opportunities for growth/expansion?
10. Jon Morris noted that we will need more input from the community and more to serve on this committee. Any suggestions on how to recruit more help? It was noted that Pat Christian has expressed an interest in serving on this committee and will attend a meeting in June when he is back from traveling.
11. It will be important to develop a timeline and communication to the public via emails, flyers, table at town meeting, website, etc. and perhaps (if approved at Town Meeting) some of the \$25,000 can go towards communications.
12. Perhaps Steve Johnson from Yarmouth could bring a presentation of Yarmouth's recent Fire/Police Station rebuild to a future meeting? Andy O'Brien will ask him.
13. This committee will need to come up with a set schedule for the future; the next meeting is June 6, 5-6pm.
14. It was suggested that in the future, we will probably need to come up with smaller sub-committees that will work on specific projects.
15. We will want to think about what we can afford to help guide us as to what is possible.
16. Members provided emails to create an email communications list.