# April 22, 2006 DPW Building Minutes Strategic Planning Session

**Attending:** Nancy Scovner, Chair; Curtis Payne, Selectmen; Dominic Albanese, Selectmen; Steve Schneider, Town Manager; Richard Crate, Jr., Chief of Police; Ken Daniels, DPW Director.

Chair Nancy Scovner called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

Mr. Schneider reviewed the goals of the day, the rules by which we would do our work and distributed an agenda to guide us through our discussions. Discussion ensued on the following topics with notes taken by Selectmen Albanese that will ultimately be compiled into a plan that will be distributed for feedback to employees, volunteer committees and the Towns people.

The Discussions today focused on Town Issues, the next meeting will focus on Organizational Issues.

What follows are the high-level topics discussed and the general consensus, or vision statements, that we developed. Each area has a series of to-do's necessary to gather data and make actual long range plans. Those actions will be summarized in detail in the final report.

## How would we like Enfield to be in 20 years?

➤ General Consensus: We would like a town that is friendly and picturesque, that keeps its old New England charm, is self sufficient, with balanced, managed growth and utilizes best practices to provide a progressive, responsive government.

## **Town Development:**

- ➤ Economic/Commercial
  - o Grocery Store/Retail
  - o Dartmouth/DHMC Spin-off's
- Residential
- ➤ General Consensus: Residential: Planned growth with neighborhoods that are developed in areas that follow our master plan and have access to the appropriate infrastructure to support the development. Commercial: Focused, slow growth in designated areas (Rt. 4 & I-89). Commercial buildings that suit their surroundings. Development that does not outpace our infrastructure priorities, with a focus on traffic control and parking.

### **Town Facilities:**

- ➤ Whitney Hall
  - Town Offices
  - o Library Space
  - o Auditorium on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- Police Department
- > Department of Public Works
- ➤ Emergency Services
  - o Ambulance
  - o Fire
- For General Consensus: Whitney Hall: Maintain historic presence in our downtown, continued location for Town Offices, and improve the third floor for cultural activities. Police Dept: Create and maintain adaptable, expandable, professional space. Possibly include the Police in a combined Emergency Services complex. Dept. of Public Works: Consolidate Public Works functions in one location.

<u>Emergency Services</u>: Plan for the centralization of operations and locations of Enfield emergency services.

### **Communications:**

- > Print:
  - Newsletters
  - Flyers
  - Newspapers
- Radio
- > Web
- > Television
- ➤ General Consensus: We want to develop a communications plan that shares real-time news of the Town government. We will strive to provide opportunities for constructive feedback. Consistency in message, transparency in all that we do, proactive in nature will help ensure an informed citizenry.

### **Infrastructure:**

- ➤ Roads
- Bridges
- > Sewer
- ➤ Water
- ➤ General Consensus: We want to encourage and maintain our rural character; we want infrastructure improvements that fit and work well with our environment. We want to be energy efficient, and proactive in the extension of our utilities to support the planned residential and commercial development in the Town.

### **Cultural/Recreational Facilities and Events:**

General Consensus: We should seek opportunities to develop new cultural and recreation facilities in conjunction with private partners. We want to develop programs for all of Enfield's citizens.

#### **Level of Town Services:**

➤ General Consensus: As the demographics and population of the Town changes the level of services we provide needs to change with them. We need to be continuously looking for opportunities to partner with our neighbors both public and private. We need to be innovative and thoughtful in how we approach change. We want to maintain a safe environment where people are proud to call Enfield home.

Selectmen Payne moved we adjourn at 3:00 PM, second by Albanese, all in favor.