

06-27-07m

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
June 27, 2007**

The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen convened a work session at 7:30 AM in the New Durham town offices located off Main Street.

Present:

Ron W. Gehl, Chairman
Peter C. Rhoades, Selectman
David Bickford, Selectman

Also Present

Fire Chief Rod Nelson
Fire Assistant Peter Varney
April Whittaker, Town Administrator (joined meeting at 9:10 AM)

Absent with Apologies

Police Chief Shawn Bernier
Fire Assistant, Russell Samples

Discussion ~ Fire Station Addition

The Board of Selectmen met with Chief Nelson and Fire Assistant Varney to discuss form and function of a proposed addition to the existing Fire Station located off Main Street. Chair Gehl indicated that he wanted to come out of this meeting with a clear directive for future building planning.

Discussion dismissed an earlier collaborative conceptual plan of joining the Fire Station to the Police Department garage. Because of concerns raised about snow removal difficulties and potential loss of parking spaces, the consensus was that space should be added to the western portion of the rear of the fire station, preserving the opening between the police station and fire station. Discussion ensued re modular construction versus stick-built construction for an addition, which would provide much needed meeting, training room and office space for the department. There was also a suggestion that in the event of an emergency such space might also fulfill the role of an Emergency Operations Center.

For a stick-built addition, an earlier estimate was in the range of \$85,000 complete with foundation and utilities. However, both fire personnel concluded that with in-house department expertise available (Master Electrician, construction contractors), or the

potential availability of inexpensive modular units, said estimate could be significantly lower.

Action to be taken:

Fire Department personnel will develop layouts and cost estimates for modular and stick-built construction to be considered further by Selectmen.

Property Liability Insurance Renewal:

Mrs. Whittaker met with the Board to seek resolution for the next insurance renewal cycle for the town's property and liability insurance.

Mrs. Whittaker provided a memorandum summarizing the quotes, and recommendation ~ see attached addendum to the minutes.

Following discussion, motion Gehl, second Bickford to support continuation with Primex for Property Liability Insurance for a one-year renewal only (July 1, 2007 ~ June 30, 2008) for \$27,014, vote 3 - 0.

Mr. Gehl noted for the record that hopefully the Workers Compensation Renewal in January 2008 would provide a more successful platform for negotiations with the offering of combining all three insurances under one insurer.

Mrs. Whittaker left the meeting at 9:35 AM.

The board continued their discussion with respect to board dynamics and means by which annual policy objectives can be more efficiently achieved.

There being no further business, **motion Rhoades, second Bickford to adjourn, vote 3 - 0.** The meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Gehl