



Plympton Public Safety  
Building Committee

# Meeting Summary - 09/23/15

- Meeting called to order at 6:01pm. Members present Nancy Butler, Jake Jacobson, Bob Karling, Art Morin, Colleen Thompson, Harry Weikel, and Jon Wilhelmsen (joined shortly after review of the minutes). Advisors present: Warren Borsari, Pat Dillon, Jim Mulcahy and Dale Pleau. Residents present: Mark Russo and John Walker.
- Minutes from 8/19 were reviewed. Minutes were approved as submitted on the motion of AM, second JJ. 6-0-0.
- No new report from the engineer. Discussion regarding prior plan and size of the wall. Concern was expressed as to how a 14' wall would be viewed from Rte 58 heading south. Perhaps the land could be terraced, resulting in a couple of smaller retaining walls. Concern was also expressed for removal of all the water given the number of buildings in a small area. May also need to consider alternate surfaces to pavement given amount of impervious area. Discussions also noted the possibility of collecting rain water from the roofs to fill cisterns and reduce amount of water that needed to be moved off-site and also amount of water needed to be pumped from groundwater. This is an area that will need to be explored once buildings are sited. A fair number of open questions remain to be addressed.
- WB & BK provided an update regarding sprinklers. Sprinkler systems are required over 7500 sq ft, but there is a waiver that can be applied for. Question is whether the Fire Department should look for a waiver when we are telling others to do it for fire safety. Question was raised as to whether the Police Department also will need it due to the type of building. A system would require a fire pump, generator, and cistern water source. Also concern that prevailing wage would increase cost, but open question as to whether this could be bid as part of the modular building within the RFP. If both would require it, then would look to have a common system with two zones - one tank and one system. Fire Department also would also want a cistern to refill trucks in the winter. This would likely be from a separate cistern as the sprinkler system would be dedicated to that. This is where rainwater collection along with a supplemental groundwater course could be utilized. System would be a dry hydrant and would not have its own pump. Would rely on the truck's pump. DP will do some reach out to see if the sprinkler piece could be part of the modular building. Cost benefit should be done on the sprinkler for the Police Department. Possible that insurance savings may offset cost, though that is an open item.
- WB presented the key Fire Department needs/wants to meet current and future needs:
  - Gender specific needs - separate changing areas; lockers, showers and sleeping quarters
  - Clean area for occupational health control: most carcinogens in smoke. Equipment needs to be kept separate (in hot zones) from living areas. Need to isolate in hot zones (where fire equipment is kept for storage and cleaning from cold zones (living, office, etc.) Hot zones should be in one area off the apparatus bay.
  - Apparatus bays: drive through scenario highly preferable to back-up. Size is based on largest vehicle or anticipated vehicle in the fleet. WB does not believe the department needs a ladder truck. So noting that the largest vehicle is the new tanker at 33', he added a few feet to 36'. 2x 36' plus 5' on either end and 8' between. Assuming 14' wide and high doors and a 4' column between each bay, (18' wide per bay) he came up with roughly a 90' x 90' apparatus bay. DP noted other bays being built are 14' wide with 80' deep. Current bays are 60' deep 12' doors. Concern expressed by AM and DP at proposed amount/size of the bays and AM asked WB to come up with a list of equipment to be stored in the building including all trailers and vehicles for the next meeting.
  - Diesel emissions: appropriate exhaust needs for running vehicles, etc. Mandatory equipment for fire stations.

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- Dispatch area in the station: secondary dispatch if/when issues with dispatch from Duxbury. It would be a redundant system. Basically a ready room with a computer terminal and phone lines
- Back up generator for the building. Possibility that a common backup generator could be used for both Fire and Police
- Fire protection
- Consider a divided bay for ambulances to keep higher temperature. AM questioned need and costs based on what he observed in Duxbury. WB should follow up to determine need for physical structure versus vehicle modifications to keep medicines at the correct temperature.
- Comments were requested from the public. JW - former Plympton Fire Chief, noted that we seemed to be discussing a lot about the building design and not addressing whether things could fit on the space suggested. JW noted that the prior meeting was devoted largely to that topic and the Committee was waiting for revised drawings from the engineer with a number of comments/requests from the last meeting. The Committee gave the Police and Fire Chiefs the opportunity to present their needs/wants and that the Police had done so at the last meeting, but the Fire Chief had been called away. As such, while we were talking about specifics, the focus is on determining footprint so that we can properly determine whether it will all fit.
- DP provided a concept drawing from ModSpace. WB also provided one from his research. Basically, it would appear that a Fire Station in the neighborhood of 10k to 10.5k sq ft would meet the current and anticipated future needs of the Fire Department
- Next steps:
  - DP to follow up whether sprinklers can be done as part of modular construction
  - WB to provide list of equipment to be stored in new fire department apparatus bay
  - DP to provide updated conceptual drawings from engineers addressing Committee comments from last meeting
- Next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2015 @ 6pm. Following meeting October 28, 2015 @ 6pm
- Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm on the motion of AM second NB. Vote: 7-0-0