



**Town of Plaistow
Public Safety Complex
Building Committee**
27 Elm Street, Plaistow, NH 03865



PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX BUILDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, July 31, 2013 @ 8:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Chief Stephen Savage, *Chairman*; William Query, *Citizens Representative*; Chief John McArdle, *Vice-Chairman*; William Baldwin, *Emergency Management* ; Michael Dorman, *Building Inspector*; Neal Morin, *Budget Committee Representative*; Dennis Heffernan, *Budget Committee Alternative Representative*; and Sean Fitzgerald, *Town Manager*

EXCUSED: Dan Poliquin, *Selectmen Representative*

ABSENT: None

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 8:05 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public present.

MINUTES: Motion by Mike Dorman to accept the March 29, 2012 and January 4, 2013 minutes, seconded by Bill Query. Abstained by Dennis Heffernan.

AGENDA:

New Business: Discuss status of land project and dredge and fill permits.

S. Fitzgerald recognized Alden Palmer and his family, who gave a number of acres to the Town of Plaistow and noted the acquiring acreage and securing a site that can be used for public safety for the future, as well as adding hundreds of more plots in the cemetery. Further explained needing the additional support for the expansion, have a short period from now to 2014 and have work to do.

Chief Savage commented on his concerns of being competitive with the school district and their needs.

D. Heffernan had the pleasure of speaking with the Superintendent of Schools and how he agrees that the Complex is a need and also has some great ideas. He suggested to all getting together for a meeting with the Superintendent in order for all to be on board and reiterated the Superintendent's desire to work with the Town.

Chief Savage talked about the architect who has been on board for quite some time and is educated with the planning and the acquisition of the property, as well as responsibilities. He indicated with the help and consideration of the Palmer family, there will be 800 potential grave sites and is a win, win situation. There was discussion of filling the frog pond and the affirmative confirmations from people.

W. Query expressed his belief of getting an approval for a fire station versus a police station and gave a personal experience as to why.

Chief Savage explains the steps that can be taken but clearly needs them to be baby steps. Mentions that the site has been selected, there is a committee and now is the time to get serious.

S. Fitzgerald spoke about the challenges for the approval, the funding available and explained having no long term debt. Discussed having the ability to do quite a few things without impacting the tax rate. He would like a team surrounding the project supporting it; many great folks with good strategies.

N. Morin talks about the next step and the generic sound of a study and had discussion of what next plan should be.

Chief McArdle concurs with Mr. Morin's comments. He stated people don't want to hear of a "feasibility study". They would like a definitive answer on what's to be done. The committee has a good grasp on what needs to be done, but need to know how to get there. With regards to Mr. Query's comment about needing the support of the fire department, as in years past, he agrees but also points out the dynamic of the fire department has changed significantly along with the change from Town Meeting to SB 2 deliberative session.

Chief Savage talked about the architect and the cost of \$150,000 with the drainage.

S. Fitzgerald would like to see a recommendation and indicated that Selectman Poliquin was unable to attend the meeting but would like to invite the Board of Selectmen to hear what the plans are and to discuss the feasibility study.

M. Dorman said there is a site plan and discussion of bids was had.

S. Fitzgerald agrees but feels it has had a lot of disagreement with the voters and is a frustrating part of the process. Would like to sit down with the Selectmen and use the unfunded balance, could really tighten it up. Bring on the technical expertise and cost estimators and package it where it can make sense and move it along. He would like to have a recommendation for the Selectmen to out fund the next step is and to bring costs to the table, as well as the filling of the frog pond.

N. Morin referred to the committee for the highway department and if the committee still exists?

S. Fitzgerald indicated that the committee hasn't been as active as the Public Safety Complex committee. There was discussion of what procedures should be taken as well as what to do regarding the highway department. Talked about slide presentations and cost estimates talked to other communities and looked at a couple sites that the Plaistow First Committee has recommended and will bring forward to the Board of Selectmen over the next month.

W. Query wanted to know what happened to all the properties on Old County Road.

S. Fitzgerald looked at the site and don't have a willing seller. There have been some tanglements DES and EPA that has complicated.

Chief Savage noted that the architect that has been hired has the skill set to do the garage as well. Whether we choose to go with them is all irrelevant now but at least it is in the mix.

Discussion was had in reference to the community being able to utilize the space at the complex for meetings and whatever else it can be used for. It can also be used for an emergency situation for people to go to, referring to Emergency Management.

S. Fitzgerald feels that a recommendation should come forward and a motion to be made.

Motion made by Chief McArdle to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to use a combination of unused fund balance and to use the funds available from the Public Safety Impact Fees to move forward. Seconded by W. Query. All in favor.

Chief Savage made a motion to thank Alden for his kindness and with helping with the project. Seconded by Chief McArdle and mentioned that it has been a very long road but a great credit of his commitment to the community and that Mr. Alden stood by and is in for the long haul and is very appreciative.

Old Business: None.

Motion made by Chief Savage to thank Alden Palmer and his family for their kindness and dedication to the Town. It has been a long road but a tremendous credit to the community, seconded by Mike Dorman.

Adjournment: M. Dorman motions to adjourn, seconded by Fire Chief McArdle. All in favor- none opposed.

NEXT MEETING DATE – To be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Bujnowski for
Committee's Recording Secretary
Sarah Gibbs who was excused from meeting.