

*Hanover Fire Station Study Planning Committee*

*May 28, 2020 at 4:00pm Virtual Meeting*

*Meeting Minutes*

**Present:** Roger Leslie, Meaghan Dunn, Vanessa O'Connor, Ruth Lynch, James Browning, John Barry, John Galluzzo, Donald Buckley, Lisa Mutchler and Christian Azizian.

**Also Present:** Chief Jeffrey Blanchard, Deputy Chief Jason Cavallaro

**Absent:** John Barry and Donald Buckley

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm by Roger Leslie

**Report of the Chairman presented by:**

1. Committee's Task

Discussion: Considering the financial status of the Town, due to the economic effects of the pandemic is it realistic that funds will be available for the project? Roger Leslie and Chief Blanchard explained that it is important that our work continue in order that the Board of Selectman would have some assistance in determining if and where another station could be built if financially feasible. Chief Blanchard also commented that Federal Funds may become available. When and how much money are not known at this time.

Action: The entire Committee agreed that our work must continue. A Report must be written by November. If funds become available, the project will be ready to begin.

2. Decision regarding visiting Fire Stations:

Discussion: Chief Blanchard explained that at the present time due to the pandemic, all fire stations are closed to the public. Members of the committee will not be able to visit stations. Following a few comments,

Action: the decision was made to wait until all Fire Stations reopened to schedule possible visits.

Chief Blanchard will reach out to other Chiefs to see if we could do a virtual or recorded visit.

3. Important Decisions to be made:

Discussion: Is the land available across the street from Hackett's Pond? This is to be determined as Town Counsel is investigating that possibility.

Discussion: The need for a station is definitely apparent as the population in North Hanover continues to grow. A large school, near-by apartments, new apartments under construction, as well as the new Hanover Crossing justify the building of a new fire station.

Chairman Leslie asked that each member of the Committee express their opinions and ideas regarding these two issues and well as what plans need to be formulated for our study to be completed.

Discussion: Definite plans should be established to guide future meetings. Vanessa O'Connor proposed such a plan based on the responsibilities and expectations of the Committee as set forth by the Board of Selectman.

The following will need to be discussed:

1. The number of bays required and space considerations
2. Operational efficiency
3. Cost containment (debt and operational)
4. Approval of a Report

Discussion: The task of organizing and writing the Final Report, as well as writing Meeting Minutes needs to be determined.

Ruth Lynch volunteered to write past and present Meeting Minutes and to gather information pertaining to postings and Open Meeting Laws. These Minutes will be sent to all members and will be approved at a future meeting upon completion by Mrs. Lynch.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm. Next meeting scheduled for June 16, 2020. Agenda to be determined.

Respectfully Presented by:

Ruth A. Lynch

*Ruth A. Lynch*

Recording Secretary