

Town of Newington, NH  
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 29th, 2020 Town Hall

**Present:** Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Chair Board of Fire Engineers, John Klanchesser, Fire Engineer, Jim Fabrizio, Fire Engineer, Ann Hebert, Fire Chief EJ Hoyt, Resident Derick Willson, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 6:00pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting with the Board of Fire Engineers

**Fire Station Addition Warrant Article \$125,000:**

The Board of Selectmen support this warrant article for a room to be added to the Fire Station for the storage and cleaning of contaminated gear. J. Klanchesser said that the Board of Fire Engineers would like the addition but realize that money is tight. He suggested that some money be put into a Capital Reserve account for future building improvements. K. Latchaw expressed his concern about delaying anything that has to do with the health and safety of the firefighters. A. Hebert said that this type of cleaning room is standard equipment now. E. Hoyt said that they need the room but thought that the Town should take a step back and take a broader view. This addition could be tying the hands of a future project. A. Hebert thought that a blanket needs assessment should be done before an addition is put on the station. K. Latchaw pointed out that the architect said that the building is safe and could take an addition and the roof still has "life in it". E. Hoyt pointed out that fire engines are bigger now and the department needs bigger places to store them. T. Connors doesn't think that this project should be delayed because it is a life/safety issue for the firefighters. J. Fabrizio stated that he thought that this addition needs to be done. The department already lost someone to cancer. K. Latchaw agreed. E. Hoyt thought there were some issues with the drawings of the addition. E. Hoyt also thought that the bathrooms in the bunk room didn't need to be ADA compliant. J. Fabrizio thought that all the bathrooms should be ADA compliant. The Board of Selectmen agreed to meet with the architect and the Chief to discuss the door and heat concerns and get clarifications of the plans. M. Roy will call the architect in the morning and get the numbers and his recommendation before the Budget public hearing on Wednesday February 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Protective Clothing Line Item:**

K. Latchaw spoke about the current inventory of the bunker gear. Assistant Chief P. Moynihan provided the Selectmen with a list of all the current bunker gear. K. Latchaw thought that according to the list each firefighter has two sets of gear. The Fire Department has spent \$73,000 since 2017 from this budget line. E. Hoyt pointed out that other items besides bunker gear is charged to that budget line. M. Roy pointed out that a \$14,000 bill that was submitted for payment in 2019 will be charged to 2020. The auditors require that anything ordered in 2019, but not received or paid for in 2019, will be charged to 2020. The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Fire Engineers agreed to \$16,000 in the protective gear budget line in the 2020 budget.

**Pick Up Trucks Warrant Article:**

The Board of Fire Engineers asked for two trucks, one truck to replace the former Police cruiser and one truck to replace the current forestry truck, the Board of Selectmen recommended no trucks and

the Budget Committee recommended one truck. T. Connors asked if one of the trucks would be used as commuter car for the Assistant Chief. J. Fabrizio explained that all Fire Departments across the country have cars for their Assistant Chiefs. K. Latchaw told the Fire Department that he had found tires for the Forestry truck for \$500 each. E. Hoyt said that if he can confirm that these tires are new and military grade, he will support getting new tires for the current Forestry truck. M. Marconi asked if E. Hoyt would be willing to take the old cruiser (Ford Explorer) this year. E. Hoyt agreed to take the old Police cruiser in 2020. All agreed to not recommend the warrant article for two trucks. The Selectmen said they would support a truck in the 2021 budget.

**Portable Radio Discussion:**

Last week P. Moynihan provided the Board of Selectmen with a chart showing all the portable radios at the fire department has at this time. The chart also shows the expiration dates of all the radios. According to the chart the fire department currently has 26 radios. A. Hebert explained that as older radios expire the department is replacing them with all the same type of radio.

**In Summary:**

The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Fire Engineers agree to recommend the \$125,000 warrant article for the Fire Station addition.

The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Fire Engineers agree to pull the warrant article from the warrant for two trucks for \$75,000 and instead to get new tires for the current Forestry truck for \$500 each and obtain the old Police cruiser. E. Hoyt wanted to confirm the tire information from Sullivan Tire.

The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Fire Engineers agree to pull the \$25,000 needs assessment warrant article from the warrant for this year but will recommend it for next year.

The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Fire Engineers agreed to pull the \$10,000 SCBA warrant article from the warrant.

The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Fire Engineers agree to recommend the \$10,000 portable radio capital reserve warrant article.

The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Fire Engineers agree to pull the warrant article for the \$640,000 fire truck from the warrant.

**Adjournment:** K. Latchaw moved to adjourn at 6:46pm. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eleanor Boy, Recorder