

**Newington Board of Selectmen  
Workshop Minutes**

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**April 29, 2003  
Newington Town Hall  
6:00 p.m.**

**In attendance:** Board of Selectmen Chairman Jack O'Reilly, Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi, Selectman Jan Stuart, AA Cynthia Gillespie, Fire Chief Roy Greenleaf, Assistant Fire Chief Dennis Cote, Firefighter Kenneth Stanley, Board of Fire Engineers, Leslie Brock, William White, Steven Sabine, Treasurer George Fletcher, and Resident Larry Wahl.

**Call to Order at 6:05 p.m.**

The purpose of the workshop was to review and discuss proposal and options on repairs to Ladder 1.

Assistant Fire Chief Dennis Cote presented the Board with a handout that outlined the problems with the aerial ladder truck, along with four options to solve the problems and three proposals. (see attached).

Assistant Chief Cote explained the testing procedures to the Board. He stated that there are currently four issues with the truck that caused it not to pass the annual testing.

1. During the test a cable on the aerial device became crushed, due to too much slack on one side of the cable. When the aerial was retracted the cable got caught up in the shifts that the pulleys run to. Also, the aerial has too much play in the left, right swing. This could be due to a problem with the keyway and the gearing in the turntable.
2. There is a weight issue with the truck, which causes the tires to touch.
3. Because of the weight of the truck there is a braking issue.
4. There is some body work that is needed on the truck.

Assistant Chief Cote stated that after the testing the department faxed the results and got quotes from E.J. Murphy, Emergency Vehicles of Maine and East Penn Fire & Emergency. He told the Board that both EJ Murphy and EVM want to install a retrofit kit, to straighten out the cables by putting tension on the cables and reversing the lifting piston on the aerial device. He said that the problem with the retrofit is that of the thirty six that have been done, most are now being replaced because the spring block is freezing up and the main seals are being replaced within about a year and a half. He stated that he

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felt that the truck doesn't need it and as far as he could tell from an OSHA study. The truck already has the retrofit through Hahn. He also stated that Emergency Vehicles of Maine said they would not put their product liability on the truck because they would be changing the original design of the vehicle.

Selectman Iocovozzi stated that EVM must not have a structural engineer on their staff. A structural engineer will fix just about any problem and put their guarantee on the work.

Assistant Chief Cote said that EVM was also talking about changing the rear end of the truck completely because of the weight issues. He pointed out that in fixing the weight issue, a height issue may be created, due to the limited height of the doors in the station bays.

Selectman Stuart asked for clarification about the tires. She asked if the original tires at the time of purchase were the right tires for the truck and the weight. If they were not, why were they left on the vehicle?

Assistant Chief Cote said that the original tires were rated for 28,640 pounds, which is the weakest link in the rear end assembly. Because of the weight the rear tires balloon out and touch.

Retired Fire Chief, Larry Wahl stated that the tires that were on the truck at the time of purchase, mid 80s, were the best and the biggest that could be purchased at that time. Eight years ago the tires were changed on the truck and there still was nothing better. He points out that the new tires that the department is looking to purchase now are new in design within the last couple of years.

Assistant Chief Cote recommended that the Town go with Option One, from East Penn Fire Apparatus, for \$59,353. He explained that the proposal from East Penn was based on the worst case scenario.

Selectman Iocovozzi asked if this will solve the problem with the certification.

Assistant Chief Cote confirmed the aerial will be certified for operational use for one year. He also pointed out that the \$59,353 included the body work however, the Jacob's Brake will cost \$4,500 and the tires and rims will cost \$3,840.

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George Fletcher asked if there was a single tire big enough to care the weight that would prevent the tires touching. Assistant Chief Cote stated that the vehicle is top heavy and that a single tire would probably make the problem worst.

Chief Greenleaf stated that there is \$137,000 in the Fire Vehicle Replacement or Repair Capital Reserve Fund at this time. The Town has been putting in \$20,000 a year with a projected replacement date of 2012. However, this truck will most likely need to be replaced in about five years.

Assistant Chief Cote stated that the department had to draw down money in the 1993-1994 time frame for a poly tank on the ladder truck and the re-cabing of engine 2.

Chairman O'Reilly pointed out that Option One will not take care of the cable problem. He asked how many times the department had to replace the cables.

Assistant Chief Cote said two were replaced in 1994, one was replaced in 1998, 1999 and now there is one more. These cables have been replaced by East Penn. The cable cost about \$200. This is just a problem in the design.

Chairmen O'Reilly said that he figured this project to come to \$67,693. He asked if the department planned to draw the money down from the Capital Reserve Fund. Assistant Chief Cote confirmed. Chairman O'Reilly instructed the department to plan on increasing the Capital Reserve Fund by \$70,000 to \$80,000 for the next five years, considering that the department may need to replace the vehicle at that time. He stated that the final decision will have to be made by the Board of Fire Engineers, because it is their budget. However, the Board of Selectmen agreed that Option One with the Jacob Brake and the tires seems to be the best way to go.

Chief Greenleaf stated that the Fire Department and the Board of Engineers want the Board of Selectmen to be informed of the issues the Department is currently working on.

The Board of Selectmen thanked them for the courtesy.

Chairman O'Reilly said that there was a \$2,730 check that was not signed from last week's manifest to National Wrecker for annual vehicle inspections. AA Gillespie said that the treasurer, George Fletcher had some questions on the invoices. Treasurer Fletcher said he felt the invoices were way out of line and the Town had been over charged on all of them.

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Assistant Chief Cote agreed but it is now hind sight. He stated that the service in the future will be done in the department, but the inspections will still have to be hired out.

Selectman Iocovozzi recommended the department check into taking the vehicles to Dover Motor Mart. He also said that the Fire Station is not set up to do the work and that if the department does the work they need to take the vehicles to the Town Garage. Chief Greenleaf asked where the Town takes its vehicles. Selectman Iocovozzi said that the Town takes the larger trucks to Peverly Hill Garage.

Chairman Reilly asked Treasurer Fletcher if he would sign the check to National Wrecker because the Town owes the money, but he recommended the department find another vendor in the future. Treasure Fletcher said he would sign.

### **Town Hall Use**

A Town Hall Use Form from New Hampshire Weavers Guild for September 15, 16 & 17<sup>th</sup> was approved.

A request from Manny Chavez with the Disabled American Veterans to use the Picnic grove on July 6<sup>th</sup> was approved.

A Town Hall Use Form for a Bridal Shower on June 7<sup>th</sup> was approved.

A Town Hall Use Form from Wil Gilbert for the PHS Baseball Club Pot Luck Banquet on June 1<sup>st</sup> was approved.

A Town Hall Use Form from Charles Smart for a Plumbing Inspector's Workshop for May 15<sup>th</sup> was approved.

### **Miscellaneous**

A letter from Barbara Hill, Chairman of the Historic District Commission was read. Mrs. Hill expressed concern about the lack of communication between the Board of Selectmen and the Historic District Commission on current events, if the Board of Selectmen's representative does not attend the Historic Commission's meetings. Also, she pointed out that RSA 673:4 required a member of the governing body to be a member of the Commission. Selectman Stuart stated that she did not mind staying on the Commission. Mrs. Hill also expressed concern that because she is moving out of Town there will be a vacancy on the Historic District Commission. She asked that the Selectmen put out a notice about the vacancy.

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Chairman O'Reilly stated that it was time to put together a newsletter. The Historic District Commission vacancy, Patterson Lane changes and the opening of the ICR are all issues the residents should know about.

Selectman Stuart said another issue is that there have been complaints that some residents are putting out garbage on the side of the road for pick up, just in bags not in garbage cans. The bags are being torn open by birds and animals and the garbage is getting all over the street.

Selectman Iocovozzi stated that the Conservation Commission will be walking the Industrial Corridor Road on May 8<sup>th</sup>. He said he thinks they will have a list of things that need to be done to the area.

Chairman O'Reilly said that the traffic flow changes are supposed to happen on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May.

Selectman Stuart said that the Historic Commission wants the Industrial Corridor Road to be named Shattuck Boulevard. Selectman Iocovozzi said the Town will have to put a letter together to notify the businesses on the road of the change. He also pointed out that the Town will need to order four signs and notification needs to be sent to the Fire Department, Police Department and the 911 designation.

**Signature and Approvals**

A proposal from Maldini Electric for \$160 to install a 1-20AMP, 120 Volt Circuit for the new hot water heater at the Town Garage was approved.

A proposal from Maldini Electric for \$520 to install a flood light for the flag on the building and to install a timer in the electrical room was tabled.

A proposal from Eliot Small Engine for \$664.90 for a Power Broom was denied.

A letter from Outback Steakhouse requesting permission to serve Alcoholic beverages on their porch was read. Chairman O'Reilly instructed AA Gillespie to have the Planning Board handle this matter.

A change in the amount on Purchase Order number 10973 to Eugene Van Loan was approved. The original Purchase Order was \$2,500 the new amount is \$2,592.81.

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The Warrant for the 2003 Resident Tax Bills in the amount of \$5,360 was signed.

A Purchase Order to William Beals in the amount of \$329.00 was approved.

There being no further business before the Board the Workshop was:

Adjourn 7:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Gillespie  
Administrative Assistant