

**TOWN OF BOLTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
FACILITIES AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
Thursday, November 2, 2023  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE BOS A/P MEETING  
TOWN HALL AND VIRTUAL  
MINUTES**

The Board of Selectmen held a Facilities and Public Safety meeting on Thursday, November 2, 2023, with First Selectman Pam Sawyer presiding. Also, in attendance were Robert Morra, Adam Teller, Robert DePietro and Town Administrator Jim Rupert, Fire Chief Bruce Dixon and Deputy Fire Chief Matt Perriera. In the audience was Amada Gordon. Missing was selectman Mike Eremita.

**1. Call to order.**

P. Sawyer called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m.

**2. Public Comment.**

None.

**3. Discussion on Engine Tanker.**

J. Rupert spoke of the FD awaiting the arrival of the new ET sometime this November. The discussion tonight is again to figure out what we are going to do with the apparatus we will be replacing. Some of the choices that have been brought up before:

- Keeping the old fire truck
- Selling the old fire truck (we could expect about \$5,000 to \$10,000 – used trucks don't sell for a lot of money).
- Donating the old fire truck to the Eastern CT Fire School

Using the old truck or re-purposing it for another department in town was also looked at. Re-purposing the truck would not be easy and in the end, we felt the best use is for it to stay a fire truck.

J. Rupert also shared a letter Chief Dixon received from N. Walek (President – Eastern CT Fire School). The Eastern CT Fire School would very much like to have the truck if we would donate it to them. In return, the fire school would be willing to provide \$5,000 worth of training classes to our firefighters in the near future.

Chief Dixon shared that he was disappointed in the Temporary Building Committee (which had poor committee attendance at most meetings) which had two charges:

- NRMCM
- Fire House

Chief Dixon felt that the old truck would have been a great back up truck for the Town of Bolton with a second bay on the station. He feels there are a few other buildings in town that could store the old engine, but he feels it would be better at the fire house. Chief Dixon's is in favor of the old truck being donated to the Eastern CT Fire School if the truck cannot be kept by the town. It would be a great asset to the Fire School for training that happens for 103 towns; and the \$5,000 of training our staff would receive in return would save us money in our budget.

Deputy Chief Perriera agrees with Chief Dixon that if the town cannot keep the truck, it would be best donated to the Fire School. The Fire School offers a large number of classes to fire fighters and they would be willing to give us \$5,000 in classes in return for the donation is a huge plus.

R. Morra shared that he thought donating the truck has always been the best option and a win, win, for both the Fire School and our fire department.

A.Teller asked the following questions:

- How do we know we can't get more than \$5-\$10,000 for the truck? (Wants it in writing).  
R. Morra stated that when they bid out the new truck the bidders were asked what they would give us for the old truck. R. Morra said he was given a verbal of the \$5-\$10,000.

Chief Dixon stated most don't want to look at a 30 year old truck. Old ET 234 we were offered only a \$2500.00 trade in value.

J. Rupert stated that if the BOS wants 2-3 written estimates for selling the old truck, he doesn't think it would be hard to acquire.

- What is our annual budget for sending staff to the school for training?
- How much of our current budget would this \$5,000 take off for us?

A.Teller stated that anytime the town were to dispose of a piece of equipment of significant value, he would expect to have fair market value estimates in writing before a decision of what to do with the equipment is taken.

R. Morra stated the number he was given verbally is fair market value but agrees we should get it in writing. R. Morra recommends a purchase in kind (rather than in cash) from the fire school of \$5,000 for the vehicle, subject to verification that is in the reasonable market value of that vehicle.

R. DePietro shared that if we do donate the vehicle he would like to see some sort of recognition of Chief Dixon and his service on the plaque that says DONATED BY THE TOWN OF BOLTON.

P. Sawyer agreed with R. DePietro's suggestion. She summarized that she thought it was the consensus of the Facilities and Public Safety committee that they would like to see documentation on fair market value. This donation is a special gift to the school, which serves many towns for training. This donation could happen should the BOS agree on the documentation of the fair market value or the \$5,000 number. This would be a great training piece of equipment that in the end could provide mutual aid to towns. P. Sawyer requesting documentation for the next BOS meeting on November 8, 2023 – place on the agenda.

**4. Adjourn.**

P. Sawyer adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McCavanagh

*Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.*