

Tilton – Northfield Fire & EMS
Facilities Committee Report
March 2016

At the 2015 district meeting the voters approved funding for the purpose of hiring a fire station consultant to work with the District on developing a plan for our facility needs. The Commissioners formed a Facilities Committee and hired Kyle Barker of WarrenStreet Architects.

The Committee includes: Commissioner Dennis Manning, Wayne Crowley, Joe Jesseman, Dennis Allen, Lucinda Hope, Paula Benski, Tim Sattler and Chief Michael Sitar, advisor to the committee.

The Facilities Committee has been meeting throughout the past year. Our goal is to bring a comprehensive plan to the District that best addresses our needs both now and into the future, that is affordable both at its inception and each year thereafter, that enhances our ability to service the needs of the community and that maintains the professionalism and responsiveness we have come to expect from the department.

During the past year we have:

- Toured the current facilities and became familiar with the various equipment and vehicles, as well as the staff and the administrative and living areas.
- Inventoried the vehicles and equipment currently owned by the District.
- Reviewed historic “Call” data including such things as call type, call location and response time.
- Reviewed how the department is staffed and the different roles of the career and call fire fighters, and how they respond to calls.
- Visited other fire departments around the state that have new or newer facilities to review and discuss with them the reasoning behind their facility development and deployment.
- Determined the space needs for all the different areas within the department and how that relates to current buildings, as well as a potential new building and its needed lot sizing.
- Looked at future population growth data for the towns as well as projected property valuation growth and how these items might affect future tax rates.
- Looked into possible locations and available real estate for a new station.

As we progressed into this process, it became clear to all, that there are no obvious, simple or easy solutions to our needs, and that we would need more than a year to complete our task. We continue to do as much work in house as possible, only using the consultant as needed. As of the end of the year, we have spent \$6,615 of the \$49,500 approved.

We would like to thank everyone who has assisted us so far and for your continued support as we move forward. Our meetings are open to the public and posted on the District website along with minutes of past meetings.

Tim Sattler, Chair