

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Special Commissioners' Meeting

Meeting Called By:	Commissioners	Date, Time:	April 28, 2009 at 18:08
Note Taker:	Kathy Tobine	Place:	Tilton School, new Academic Building, School Street, 1 st Floor 9 th Grade Classroom, Tilton

Attendees: Commissioners Paul Auger, Tom Gallant and Kevin Waldron; Chief Stephen Carrier, Deputy Chief Mike Robinson, Administrative Assistant Kathy Tobine, Captain Brad Ober, Captain Greg Michaud, Gabrielle DeCoste, FF1/EMT-I; Joyce Fulweiler, Town Administrator/Tilton; Tilton Selectmen Sandra Plessner, Patricia Consentino and Normand Boudreau; Pat Clark, Scott Davis; Reporters Michael Kitch, The Laconia Daily Sun and Maddie Hannah, The Concord Monitor.

Commissioner Waldron called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

Commissioner Waldron: Meeting minutes have been provided by the Life Safety Committee on their March meetings. I made a comment at our meeting Thursday night regarding Fire District representation on that Committee. I was under the impression that Deputy Robinson was appointed to speak on behalf of the District. I was told that wasn't the case. However, somewhere in these minutes it's pretty clear that the both Mr. LaBelle and Mr. Wellington are pretty clear that they feel that is the case. No one has the authority to appoint anyone to represent the Fire District other than the Fire Commissioners.

Commissioner Gallant: Our charge is relative to space needs. We have all looked at the MRI report. We sat through meetings of the boards and also had the opportunity to sit through the April 6th meeting in which the public was invited and spoke relative to their feelings. The general consensus of all parties there, including both Boards of Selectmen, was that the ball is in the court of the District to make some decision as to space needs. That is our charge tonight. Not having been member of the board for the last three years and not a participant in any meetings except April 6th, I will defer to your feelings as to the space needs of the District as it relates to your observations of all the meetings preceding this one.

Commissioner Waldron: From my perspective, it's pretty clear we need to do something. I cannot say tonight that the life safety building is way to go. The Fire District is a separate entity from either Town and my feeling is it should remain that way. If we do decide to go to the life safety route, I insist on a commissioner seat that has a vote on that Committee.

Commissioner Gallant: I think that the Committee is open to suggestions. They are not going to be making decisions about anything. They are going to make recommendations to the Town of Tilton as it relates to the Police Department. If we go in the direction of a life safety complex, they will make recommendations jointly to the Fire District, the Commissioners and the two towns if that's way we go. They are not making decisions on anything. I think we can all agree something needs to be done about Center Street. There's no question about that. If the District chooses to go the life safety route, the Committee has been established. It's there to accommodate that need. Their main charge is the police station. The Town of Tilton already owns the building. That is being looked at as one of many possibilities. That Committee is basically an exploratory committee. They are saying if you are interested in exploring the possibility of a life safety building, then come on board. We want to hear from you. We want to hear from Mike, the commissioners, different representatives of the District. What are your needs? They have said that basically the police department can function from almost anywhere. If you read the commissioned 2006 report that was done for the Town of Tilton relative to the need for a new police station, one of the recommendations is that it be highly visible. However, deployment is not the same as it relates to police as it does for fire. We all know that. You can insist, if you want, on a voting seat. I'm not sure that it's their prerogative to grant it to us. If it is, they will give it to us. If not, they will find a way. My personal feeling is that there is nothing to fear by virtue of

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participating with that Committee. That Committee cannot and will not make any decisions for the Fire District. We all agree on that. We are the governing body. Just as the select people in Tilton is the governing body of the Town of Tilton. That Committee cannot make decisions for the select people. They can make recommendations to the select people. The select people and they can then go jointly before the body next year and make recommendations.

I sense from all the letters going back and forth and the discussions that have gone on that there seems to be this feeling of something to fear by participation with them. I find them to be nothing but accommodating. That is my perception. The Committee is very fortunate to have Ben Labelle who is a very fair handed person whose past track record speaks for itself. Ben is a real gentleman. He will make a good chairman. He was the chair of the budget committee in Tilton for at least one year. He did a very good job and a very fair job.

I couldn't agree more with you that who today can tell us that going the route of a life safety building is the way to go. It has not been explored enough. No one questions that we need to upgrade the Park Street Station. It should have been done years ago. It should be one of the first tasks. I think that is a decision we can more easily come to agreement on than what to do about Center Street. On one hand, it's clear that Park Street needs to be upgraded. On the other hand, it's clear that Center Street at some point needs to be abandoned.

Pat Clark: If you could leave the floor open for public comment before voting on anything, I would appreciate it.

Commissioner Waldron: As long as it doesn't interrupt the process, we will.

Selectman Consentino: I would like to say something at some point in time if it's convenient for you folks. Being selectman and Life Safety Committee member, I would just like to kind of put a couple things to rest. There have been an awful lot of letters going back and forth. I really don't have a political agenda or political history coming in to any of this, having a background with the Fire District Commissioners or Northfield selectmen. I'm coming in with a clean slate. What I'm seeing is our intentions not really being heard. We are charged with almost the same thing you are charged with. You are charged with looking at your fire and safety for both communities and to come back to your next meeting with the selectmen and say these are our recommendations. Pretty much this is what we are charged with too, only for the Town of Tilton. Being a Fire District, we really can't do that and exclude Northfield or the Fire District from that. What we have done, as a committee, is invited you folks. What we should have done was said could you please help us. That would probably be a better format for all of this. We are looking for your expertise as Commissioners. What we are looking for with Mike Robinson and Owen Wellington is their expertise. Yes, they can build a police department almost anywhere. But, can we build a fire department anywhere. No, there are too many things that enter into that. That's where you folks come in. That's where we need your knowledge. Mike's presentation was quite an eye opener to us as to where the responses were over the last five years, what you folks have to look at and what you have to take into consideration. We don't want to short change that. I hope I'm getting feelings across here.

There really isn't a vote. We are merely getting data and will present that at the next town meeting. We have no right to vote, particularly on fire. What we want to do is to bring back every bit of information we possibly can. This time we have done our homework. We have gone to people who know what they are talking about. We have gone to the people that have been in this world many, many years. This is the information we are getting back. You are more than welcome. If it's a seat you want in there, I will bring it back to the Committee. That's not an issue. That's never been an issue. Your input is invaluable. Your knowledge is beyond some of us, way beyond, in that area. That's what we are looking for from the Commissioners. I don't want to get in to the politics of Tilton-Northfield fire, police, whatever. Yes, we are going to build a police department; but, in the interim it may behoove us to look at a life safety building. It may not. It may turn out that it's not okay for us to do that. In time are we expecting you to build a fire department while we build a police department? No, but we expect some

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help in the area of what we choose and take back to the people of Tilton. It's going to benefit not only Tilton, but we are looking for it to benefit the community of Northfield as well. The response time. We don't have the figures you have. That's why we are asking for your help. We are asking for your assistance. That's all that's there. There is nothing more except we would really like your help.

Commissioner Waldron: You don't happen to know the legalities involved of a life safety building where one is a town and one is a district?

Commissioner Gallant: I suggested to them they get legal opinion as to how something like that would work. Would Tilton build and lease to the District for \$1? Build and lease for whatever it cost to build that portion of it? It's just an oddity. Any municipal complex you look at will both be under the auspices of the same head. I don't think there would be anything illegal about doing it. It would be how you handle the process. I suggested to them they check in to that.

Commissioner Auger: Tom is right. Something has to be done within next year or two with Church Street. Especially the offices and stuff like that there. Northfield has the location right now. It is accessible. People know where it is. When we say life safety building, I feel like we are going to get dragged into something that we are going to regret down the road. It's liable to come to that too. I believe the Town of Tilton has some issues with the police department. To get the Fire District involved right now would not be the way to go.

Commissioner Gallant: What do you mean by that statement?

Commissioner Auger: There is a money issue with it.

Commissioner Gallant: The decision was made to go forward without the body's full understanding. The body put the brakes on. They said let's not go forward until we feel we are doing the right thing.

Commissioner Auger: Evidently it wasn't done in the beginning the right way. If the Fire District was involved right now, what would the actual cost be to the District.

Commissioner Waldron: What do you think their chances are?

Commissioner Gallant: I was on the first committee. Now a second committee has been formed without disbanding the first and taking action on their recommendations. The general consensus is that it is the wrong place for the fire department. If the Committee looks at available sites and available options and they choose that as the site, I would be against it.

Commissioner Auger: You are right Tom. It seems to me we are trying to push the police department and fire station together.

Commissioner Gallant: That's not the case.

Commissioner Waldron: What are the chances of Tilton abandoning Business Park Drive?

Commissioner Gallant: I think the chances are reasonable. It's a reasonable assumption.

Selectman Boudreau: As far as Business Park Drive goes, if it is decided that that is not a prime location for police or fire or anything, we will look at selling hoping to recoup what has been put into it in terms of the purchase price. Barring that, I don't see any reason why they couldn't lease it. As I understand it, we have already been asked if it would be open for short term lease. In terms of that building, one way or the other, that's just a factor the Committee is taking into consideration while looking at the whole picture. They can't look at the whole picture without getting the input from the Fire District. Based upon what Mike said and what I have read in the paper to be within ½ mile of I-93, to me, puts that just on the outside of where you want to be. Maybe I'm thinking a piece of property on Route 140 would be better because you could easily access I-93 North and South. You could get that end of Northfield as well as East Tilton all in one fell swoop. That's just my own personal opinion. That's no basis in fact other than just the conclusions I've come to with from what I've heard and read. Nobody is going to try to push that building down anybody's throat.

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Commissioner Waldron: The only thing that's clear to me right now is that the Fire District has no interest in Business Park Drive.

Commissioner Gallant: Everybody knows that.

Pat Clark: Just a little historical perspective, the reason why the Life Safety Building Committee was even started in a large part was to include feedback from Northfield. If you look at the town meeting where this was discussed, a major reason for making this move was to pull things back because there was no input from the Fire District including the Fire Commissioners when we bought that building on Business Park Drive. We are looking at the voters in Tilton being willing to hold up with a certain amount of uncertainty as to what the outcome is going to be to that million and a half dollar building so we could allow Northfield some input. I think you should feel real proud of the fact that we were willing to do that. We want to do everything we can to work with the Fire District. Nothing can happen and I think Tom said it pretty well about not having any fear on not having a vote from the Commissioners. Whatever the Life Safety Building Committee comes up with will be enhanced greatly at the Fire District meeting if they have the support of the Fire Commissioners. It will be reduced substantially, I think, if they don't have your backing. Keeping your options open is a worthwhile venture because they can't do anything. Like Tom said, they are an exploratory committee. They are going to make recommendations both to the Town for the Police Department and to the Fire District and Commissioners for the Fire District. The votes will be done in those two locations.

There is no where else in the State where we have this kind of a mélanges between towns and a fire district being separate. I think it's healthy. I think we have had a fire district for a very long time and I think it is very affordable and worthwhile.

The life safety building or police study committee that Tom was on in 2006 came up with certain findings. One was that the police department should be assessable. We all realize that the fire department should be visible and assessable on Route 3 lets say in our case, but the police department should be assessable as well. The life safety building cost figures indicated a cost savings in the building of about 15%. Who knows what this committee will be able to come up with but I think that advantage can be leveraged not only for the benefit of Tilton but it could be leveraged to the benefit of the entire District. But, I think that advantage to shared facilities for training rooms, kitchens, all sorts of things. Something like that can be configured in such a way that there is a cost savings to the District and the Town. It's certainly a lot cheaper to buy one piece of property rather than two pieces of property. So if you eventually end up looking at Center Street and realizing that it's not really that big an advantage to have Center Street in such close proximity to Park Street why not move it over toward Exit 20. Even if it's on one side or the other of Exit 20, you can still get into the backdoor of Northfield like Norm said and improve response times not only for East Tilton which has been talked about but we can improve greatly response times into a large part of Northfield. That's a real plus plus for both towns. I also think that it's important for you to consider looking at Park Street Station improvements that Tom was talking about. I think it's important to look at both the Park Street Station improvements but also dealing with the needs that Tilton has also by dealing with the needs of the Center Street Station and making it a two part deal at one time. I think the voters in one town or other will be disappointed if only one is dealt with. I gave you a copy of the article that was passed at town meeting. I highlighted some of the things in there that speak well of the interest of the voters in Tilton that voted 103 to 3 in favor of this. There is nothing to fear. Keep options open by meeting with the Committee. I think the voters of both Tilton and Northfield benefit from it. At the end of the day, if you don't like what they came up with, you can go to Fire District meeting and say you don't support it.

Commissioner Gallant: The Committee in holding pattern waiting to see what we want to do. I'm on record as saying that we have to make a decision now as to what we want to do. That's why I wanted this meeting tonight. We need to keep options open. Let's participate with them. We have nothing to loose. They can't make any decisions for us. Nor do they have any intentions of making any decisions for us. If we choose not to belly up to bar, they will go it alone and look strictly at a police department.

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Let's explore all the options and go with the one that is in the best interest of the District. Just as they are going to try find what will be in the best interest of the Town and the District for that matter. There is no commitment here whatsoever. Let's start an open forum. Let us look at one option as a group. Certainly study what we are going to do with Park Street. We have set money aside for that. The MRI solution to the deployment issue is two fold. Relocate the Center Street Station to East Tilton and retrofit the Park Street Station with living quarters to accept a duty crew 24/7 to cover the business districts and most of Northfield.

The Chief's comments were, "I agree with this philosophy. It has been my vision to some day decentralize and have two stations staffed with two personnel in each station by having a station closer to Mosquito Bridge and Park Street. Park Street should be the natural solution. By splitting the shift of four firefighters between the stations we would have more response options, which apparatus would respond and in which order. The response time to East Tilton would decrease as would the response time for Southwest Northfield if both stations were staffed. One of the stations would have to be completed prior to the hiring of an additional full-time firefighter per shift simply because the Center Street Station does not have the space to accommodate one more firefighter. Therefore, the proper sequence of events, I believe would be to (a) renovate Park Street, (b) hire three additional firefighters and (c) build a new station in East Tilton. There are a number of options to be discussed here. I believe that a major decision to be made is where the headquarters of the fire department should be located. I have mentioned in the past visibility and accessibility is important to us. Based on that alone, I would say that Park Street would be more appropriate. Our option for a substation was to be at the new Tilton site."

So I really think we need to move forward on the Park Street end. We have to look at what needs to be done to get out of Center Street and what time it needs to be done. I think we should also keep our option open by participating with the Committee to see what they come up with. It's worth looking at.

Commissioner Waldron: I believe a life safety building in Tilton would be a nearly impossible sell to the voters in Northfield. We do need to explore something at Park Street. I'm not convinced the life safety building is the way to go.

Commissioner Gallant: Nor am I. But I think we should keep our options open and see what that offers us while we consider what our options are.

Commissioner Waldron: So we, conceivably consider those options, then end up not taking it and doing something on our own anyway?

Commissioner Gallant: That is correct. I believe that while we are participating with them we should be exploring our options. What are our options? What are our costs? I'm not sure which way to go. I don't think we will ever know unless we explore all the possibilities. Their committee will do all the leg work. They will segregate it and say ok, do we go it alone or do we go life safety. It doesn't make any difference. They will explore the possibility of grants. The Town of Tilton will not apply for grants for the Fire District.

Pat Clark: I've done some grant writing and Joyce has as well. Grants that I've seen that are municipal type (fire district, town) need to get the Board of Selectmen to sign off. They can't go it alone. The Selectmen have to be included. There has to be a signature from selectmen saying they buy into it. In the same token, if a grant is for the Fire District, then the three commissioners have to sign off on that before anyone has the right to apply for any grant money. So there is your checkmate. You are still in the driver's seat there. There is no way that Committee can do anything. The thing they can do is a tremendous amount of work, labor saving work, for you to benefit the Fire District. That's the way the legality plays in most of the grants I have seen. Have you seen anything different that that Joyce?

Joyce Fulweiler: No.

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Selectman Consentino: I think when the USDA came to the old Life Safety Committee, police building committee, he stated to the committee that with the way monies are and the economy is right now, there is a lot more grant money available for life safety buildings and fire than there is just police alone. We can research and see what's available out there. There are many options after this opens up. I don't know which direction this is going to go in. Being a participant helps move things along.

Commissioner Waldron: Is it your feeling the Committee will explore a life safety complex with or without us?

Selectman Consentino: We are charged from the body that we set up a specific committee and we have to look into a life safety complex. We are looking into it. We are exploring it. We are getting some facts. We are getting some figures. This is what we need to do. My understanding is the last committee did not include the Fire District. They did not include the Northfield piece of it. This is one of the reasons they want back to the drawing board and said now let's do this right. This time they want to get input from everybody. That way they can go back to voters and say this is what we found out, these are the choices. This is our recommendation. You can say we want nothing to do with it. You can say we helped with it. Are we going to build on it later? We don't know. We may come to that decision. We are charged with pretty much what you are charged with. Our charges are intertwined. It's going to take all of us to work at it to say this is where we are going to go. The intent not to snowball or push anyone into a corner and say this is it. These are your options. We don't want that. We never did. What we want is what we need to bring back to the people. That's our charge. So we have to go ahead and look at options are available to us. We need a police department. You folks are looking at Park Street. We need a police department right off. You may think we need a fire station right off too. Can we work together? Who knows? We don't know unless we explore that. What I'm for and what the body voted on 103 to 3 is that they care about the safety of our people. We need this to work. Now go back and get it right. Bring us back what we need. This time get it right. That's why we are looking in to all possibilities.

Scott Davis: What we stated at town meeting is what Tom has been stating. No one in that assembly had the answers or the knowledge. What they are gaining this year is the knowledge. So the Fire District and Towns can move forward in a positive manner knowing they have the information in front of them to make an informed decision. There is nothing the Committee can do to influence or to affect the Fire District. They can't put something forward for the Fire District that is going to push the Commissioners one way or another. You are the governing body so you would be the body that would be bringing it before the people, the legislative body of the Fire District. This is the same with the selectmen. The Committee can do whatever but without the support of the Selectmen, they won't get anywhere. Go out and do the research. Gather all the knowledge and be able to make an informed decision not only for the future of the Towns of Tilton and Northfield but for the Fire District.

Commissioner Waldron: We keep talking about involving the Northfield Selectmen. I think it's pretty clear they don't want anything to do with it. They don't want to help design a police station for Tilton. They are content with this board and their fire chief.

Scott Davis: They can have their own thought process. I think the sad part that has been missed up front is that somebody was trying to push something on somebody else. That was never the case. The case is, hopefully, the Committee could gather information from the Board of Selectmen in Northfield. Because of the MRI report, there was never communication between Tilton and Northfield in regards to the Fire District. Ben was hoping by having the invitation out there to ask the Board of Selectmen from Northfield and the Fire District to participate in the information and discovery. It's unfortunate if the Board of Selectmen from Northfield take that stance. They are misunderstanding the intent of what was put forward.

Selectman Consentino: That doesn't mean we are going to stop trying.

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Deputy Robinson: If this goes forward, if in the future there are two stations, one full time in Northfield and one full time in the area of Exit 20, it does affect the Town of Northfield. As we go forward with the Committee, when I was approached to act as representative of the District, I spoke with the Chief several times on what the intentions were. I was appointed to represent more operationally with information. It was my intent in the beginning to report back to the Commissioners. Before any vote was taken by me, I would have the vote of the Commissioners. I represent the District every day in the job I do. Anything I have done for the Committee so far is to represent operational material and facts. I have made it clear in every meeting that my vote represents the District after being reviewed by the Commissioners, not my own personal opinion. One thing that has been made clear is that we need to take a closer look at what the 10 year information tells us. Response times in Northfield are basically pretty good due to the location of the stations. There are a lot of calls in the Exit 20 area. We do have a significant call base in eastern Tilton.

I offer my services. If you could make decision as soon as possible as to our participation and whether it will involve me or not so I can let Committee know.

Per your request, I did bring that response information from the 4/23 meeting with me.

Commissioner Gallant: What is the Chief's view?

Chief Carrier: It really hasn't changed much from when we discussed the MRI report. Any building project has to be given some thought and go through the process, much like the opportunity given to us tonight to be involved in the Committee. The first committee lacked that. Although I think it was well intentioned, it certainly wasn't a process that led to a long term facility that would take us into the future. So with the MRI report and the discussion surrounding that and the opportunity to work with the Police Department in the Town of Tilton, I thought it was a very good step in the right direction.

I, as much as anybody, am disappointed with the response from Northfield. They are a very large part of our district and need to be involved in any decision making process that we make. I don't disagree at all that the Commissioners need to make the decisions for the District. It only makes sense to me that they would be offered a position on that Committee. I don't feel anything is being forced down anybody's throat. We still hold all of the control over what our future is as far as the Fire District. It's only natural to think that because in the past the Fire District has had building committees and opportunities to discuss projects such as this and over the past three years we have failed or neglected to discuss anything that deals with our capital needs. Because they didn't see any activity on the on the part of the Fire District, they started to move in directions on their own to solve their own needs.

The thought of a life safety building always existed out there in the minds of some people. It's only natural to think of when combining resources the life safety building concept is way to go. It has to be cost savings in long run. It has to be better for relationships between departments and the community. Everything is headed in that direction. It will meet our needs just on the surface without knowing the real plans. It's better than what we have today. At that time, I was leaning toward the headquarters being at Park Street. We saw no option in the police station option on Business Park Drive. Now that has changed. There is more of an option to do headquarters in Tilton somewhere with a smaller addition on the Park Street Station that would include living quarters.

It would still be my vision to have the Park Street Station 24 hours a day and two people stationed somewhere in Tilton. It makes more sense to me to decentralize from the Center Street Station and spread out a little bit. With everything that Mike said, it would improve response times to a large part of Northfield while at the same time satisfy some of the concerns we have heard about East Tilton while maintaining a presence in the downtown area. Main Street is only 8/10 of a mile from the Park Street Station. We are more fairly and equitably spreading our services across the District if we had a station somewhere in the area of Exit 20.

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Deputy Robinson: One of things important to remember is that the Park Street Station holds a vital location for us and that's the storage facility for the majority of our vehicles. For whatever reason, traditionally, most of the call people live in that area. It's an ideal location as a storage facility for back up vehicles or primary back up vehicles. Anything done anywhere else will certainly be of a smaller magnitude for vehicle storage. We have our storage facility and it's in an ideal location on Park Street.

Commissioner Waldron: We need to decide if we are going to put member on that committee or not.

Commissioner Gallant: I make a motion to put a person on the Committee for the purposes of options. Otherwise, look at what our facilities needs are primarily as it relates to Park Street and secondarily Center Street.

Commissioner Auger: I second the motion.

Commissioner Waldron: Any discussion? Hearing none, vote was taken.

Commissioner Auger and Commissioner Gallant, for; Commissioner Waldron, against.

Commissioner Gallant: I offer to sit on the Committee. Informative only. No vote. They meet the first Tuesday and fourth Wednesday.

Commissioner Auger: I make a motion to nominate Tom.

Commissioner Gallant: I second the motion.

Commissioner Waldron: Any discussion? Hearing none, vote was taken.

Commissioner Auger and Commissioner Gallant, in favor; Commissioner Waldron, opposed.

Commissioner Gallant: I want to further determine how we are going to proceed to determine Park Street needs and Center Street needs. If you are willing to entertain, I will put together an outline on how to do that for the next meeting. Basically who should be on the committee and how they should proceed and so forth.

Deputy Robinson: I would like a ruling from the Board as to where my stance should be as a current member of the Committee. As my supervisors, where should I stand with it?

Commissioner Gallant: From my standpoint, you are there to strictly provide information. You are there to represent the District, to pass along prudent information that may or may not ask for.

Deputy Robinson: I'm willing to continue to do that with the Commissioners' support.

Commissioner Gallant: You are there by virtue of having been appointed by the Chairman who was directed by the will of the body of the Town of Tilton.

Deputy Robinson: I would also like to serve with support.

Commissioner Gallant: You have my support but you will have to ask the other two gentlemen as to how they feel.

Commissioner Waldron: My position is clear. No one but this Board can appoint a person to serve on a committee.

Chief Carrier: We need to be careful. You are almost censuring him to some point. Mike already made the comment earlier. He's asked his opinion day in and day out. Much like I am. Much like Brad is. Much like anyone else who is an officer. I think we wouldn't be serving the public if we didn't give that opinion or our professional expertise when we are put in that situation. We are all adults and smart enough to determine when something is political in nature and to stop when it's time for the Commissioners to make a decision. I don't think there have been any problems in the past that have reared their heads. One other point that hasn't been discussed yet is that Mike is not only on the Committee as a representative of the Fire District; he is a resident of the Town of Tilton and has a voice that way. So I think the Commission is correct in stating their concerns for what he has said from time

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to time and what he may say from time to time; however, I think we need to be careful on how far we go in not allowing him to speak.

Commissioner Waldron: He can say whatever he wants wherever he wants except when it comes to representing the Fire District.

Deputy Robinson: All they have asked for is facts and information. I'm not putting an application in for the job. I have served on three other building committees for the District. I have served and do have some experience. I'm just looking for support that's all.

Commissioner Auger: He's disappointed that the Committee has no representation from anybody from Northfield.

Commissioner Gallant: They do. Owen Wellington lives in Northfield and Mike represents the District. He represents both towns. He doesn't represent Tilton or Northfield, he represents the District.

Commissioner Auger: Owen represents the Police Department.

Commissioner Gallant: And has spoken the minutes will reflect. He has a very distinct position because he not only is a policeman from Tilton he is a resident of Northfield. It was not the last meeting, but the meeting before that he stated that. So there is representation.

Selectman Consentino: I think that's one of the reasons we asked the Northfield Selectmen to join us because as a body in Tilton, they cannot direct Tilton in a warrant article to make up a committee with residents from Northfield. It's kind of a unique situation there. So they formed a committee with representation with Owen in Northfield with the hopes Northfield Selectmen would join us and give us some input as well as the Fire District which would also give us input and support from Northfield. That's what our intentions were.

Pat Clark: You may want to reconsider who is going to be the representative from the Commissioners on Committee. One of you two could swap with Tom if that would be more comfortable for yourself.

Commissioner Gallant: The point is we represent the District not the Town.

Commissioner Auger: He supports Deputy Robinson to be on Committee.

Commissioner Gallant made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 19:23.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Tobine
Administrative Assistant