

The Newbury Times Special Edition



Planning for Newbury's Safety Services

What it is?

At the 2017 Town Meeting, the community decided to hire a professional facilitator. The goal of this initiative was to review the work of the previous two committee efforts related to Newbury's Safety Service Buildings and to facilitate community conversations to better understand the need, questions, and concerns related to future safety service structures. To accomplish these tasks, the Select Board hired Steve Whitman and Karen Fitzgerald, Resilience Design & Planning, to guide this process. Both Steve and Karen have been assisting the Town with the recent Master Plan update project and are familiar with Newbury.



What has happened so far?

At the start of this process in May 2017, Steve and Karen met with members of the previous two Safety Services committees and solicited their ideas and previously developed resources. Representatives of the Newbury Town Center Committee (2011-2012) and the Safety Services Building Committee (2015-2016) provided an overview of their process and deliverables. Representatives from both Committees also shared some thoughts on outstanding issues that need to be resolved in order to address the deficiencies of the existing safety service facility.



In June, two public forums were scheduled to solicit feedback from residents and property owners - to identify barriers and opportunities moving forward. The findings of both sessions can be found at www.newburynh.org.

Looking Back

The Town of Newbury purchased a 1.8 acre parcel in 2005 to address known land constraints within the Town Center. This property is adjacent to (and to the east of) the Library and is referred to as the Bald Sunapee parcel. In 2007 a second parcel 1.6 acres in size adjacent was purchased. This land is east of the Bald Sunapee parcel and is referred to as the called Camacho parcel.

Some Facts about the Existing Combined Facility

The existing Newbury Fire and Police Station is a wood-framed building approximately 6,400 square feet in size. The fire station uses approximately 5,000 square feet and the police station uses approximately 1,400 square feet. There are multiple areas of concern regarding the existing building including:

- The present building is no longer up to current code requirements in the following areas:
 - Structural capacity
 - Electrical systems
 - Heating and ventilating systems
 - Energy conservation requirements
- There is inadequate storage space in both the police and fire departments for handling equipment and apparatus presently used on an ongoing basis.
- The amount of square footage allotted to the fire department is inadequate for today's needs.
- The amount of square footage allotted to the police department is inadequate for today's needs.
- The existing police department linear layout is inefficient for the operations of the department making security and privacy difficult. The layout presents areas of concern for the secure handling and storage of evidence and data, and affording privacy in the police officers' work areas, and for citizen/witness interviews.
- The existing fire department ceiling and bay doors are too low for the needs of today's equipment
- Newbury pays extra costs for retrofitting the trucks to fit in the bays.
- The fire department cannot accommodate a ladder truck needed to respond to larger building fires.
- There are inadequate space/facilities in the fire department to address the cleaning and maintenance of today's emergency response equipment.
- There is inadequate turning space in the driveway for fire department apparatus, necessitating maneuvering and backing up on NH Rte 103 in a potentially dangerous manner. Accidents due to visibility are common in this location.

- There is inadequate on-site parking.
 - The fire department turnout gear is stored in the main bay area and national studies have linked diesel fumes to cancer in firefighters. Newbury currently has an antiquated exhaust system for the fire department.
 - The existing two garage doors/bays present issues including slowing Mutual Aid Agreement Response Times by two minutes on average. Also, so called “stacked trucks” (one in front of the other) presents problems if one piece of equipment goes down.
 - There are no living quarters for potential future staffed firefighters, or current opportunities to attract live-in trainees, who could provide 24-hour staffing during the training periods.
 - The existing facility lacks sufficient office space.
 - There is a lack of storage space which creates a safety issue. The current storage is accessed by step ladder which is against code and is dangerous. We have been cited by the New Hampshire Labor Department regarding this situation.
 - There is no storage space for specialized equipment and the fire department is presently using the highway department garage for storage.
 - There is an added cost of purchasing customized new trucks that will fit into the current station (vs. purchasing full-size standard trucks).
 - There is no sprinkler system.
 - There is no separate public fire entrance (Safe Zone / Safe Space).
 - There is zero room for future equipment and department expansion to meet the needs of the town.
-

Want to tell us what you think?

Throughout this process, we have been asking for feedback so we can all better understand what the remaining issues and concerns may be related to the topic of Safety Service buildings in Newbury. **We encourage you to take a moment and share your thoughts and questions with us at the following address: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NewburySafety>**

Feedback is welcome before and after the September 12th Forum and really helps inform the process!

Join us in September!

On September 12th we will be hosting an interactive community forum from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room. The purpose of this forum will be to provide an overview of the feedback received so far, review case study examples from other NH communities, review existing options for the creation of new facilities, and a group discussion of next steps and how best to proceed in Newbury. Feedback will be collected throughout the session verbally and in writing and our hope is to have an engaging and productive worksession that helps identify future actions for the Town to consider.

Future of
Newbury Safety Services Facility

Important Community Meeting

Please join us to
continue the discussion & contribute your input!

Give us your feedback on-line now at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NewburySafety>

September 12, 2017: Public Forum #3

6pm-8pm - Town Office Meeting Room;

- ◆ Summary of 2017 public input to date
- ◆ Review of previous design options and costs
- ◆ See similar NH town's case studies

Check out the town
website at
www.newburynh.org



Town of Newbury,
New Hampshire

P.O. Box 296
937 Route 103
Newbury, NH 03255
603-763-4940