

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY STUDY COMMITTEE MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022, 7:00 PM

ROOM 9, ACTON TOWN HALL, 472 MAIN STREET

PRESENT: Dean Charter, Roland Bourdan, Fred Faherty, Erik Larson, Ken Henderson, Ann Chang, Corey York

ABSENT: Robert Puffer

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Nolde

The meeting came to order at 7:00 PM. The Chair requested comments from the members about the tour of the Westford facility and specific comments about the needs for a new or renovated Acton facility.

No formal votes were taken other than to adjourn. Major discussion points were as follows:

Henderson felt that the Westford facility was “overkill” and provided too many amenities for the staff. He felt that we need to set priorities.

Chang felt that the primary focus of the new Acton facility should be to provide a safe and productive work area for Town staff.

York suggested a focus on protection of town equipment and vehicles, proper ventilation, and separation of office functions from work areas.

York recommended Option 1 A from the Weston and Sampson report (all new facility)

Larson commented that a new facility would be best from an energy conservation point of view, but that there would be high initial costs offset with lower ongoing operational costs.

Flaherty commented that we should not try as a committee to design a building, as Weston and Sampson have the bandwidth to do so; we should be guided by their work.

The consensus of the committee is that what we have now is inadequate and needs to be improved or replaced.

It was agreed by consensus that our work should focus primarily on the DPW building itself, as consideration of the Transfer Station could involve other issues (such as curb side pick-up), which would delay our work as it would involve a larger community dialogue.

It was agreed that consideration of replacing the fuel tanks, providing site security, and interaction with the neighbors should be undertaken sooner rather than later in the process.

It was agreed to that building a new facility twice the size of the existing while keeping the present operations going would be a major challenge.

Weston and Sampson would be asked to present at our next meeting on Wednesday, June 15 so we could understand the issues better. Weston and Sampson will also present to the Select Board on Monday, July 25 at a regular Select Board meeting.

Chang moved to adjourn at 8:15 PM, seconded by Larson. Unanimous approval to

Next regular meeting to be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, June 15, in Room 9, Acton Town Hall

Materials referred to during the meeting

Agenda for May 25, 2022 DPWFSC meeting

Weston and Sampson Architecture and Engineering Evaluation