

Minutes - Fire Station Study Committee

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

(Subcommittee of WFD Prudential Committee)

Members Present:

Joyce Bacchiocchi, Allyson Bonin, Dean Decas, John Kelley, Mark Rogers, Alex Estes, Chris McIntosh, Matt Bennett, Alan Slavin, Catherine Giannelli

6:02 pm Open Meeting

- Prudential Committee thanked the members who were selected for wanting to take part in this large project

6:03 pm Organization of the Committee

- Motion to appoint Joyce Bacchiocchi as Chair of the Fire Station Study Committee -Motion John Kelley, Second Alan Slavin. Approved 10-0-0.
- Motion to appoint Allyson Bonin as Secretary of the Fire Station Study Committee – Motion Joyce Bacchiocchi, Second John Kelley. Approved 10-0-0.

6:04 pm Preliminary Discussion

- John Kelley gave an overview of a Study that was completed in 1997-1998.
- John Kelley discussed a second Study that was completed in 2012 by Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. A Needs Analysis was completed at this time. A representative from Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. will send over any related documents from their completed Study. This plan included the Clerk Treasurer's Office.
- Available land that would suit our needs is in short supply. There are a few locations that could potentially be purchased from the Town, Southcoast, or A.D. Makepeace.
- Grants for fire stations are hard to come by.
- Need to be cognizant of increased response time if a new location is chosen.
- The Department's ISO rating needs to be considered. Could Captain Tyler Crabb attend a meeting to share his findings on the recent ISO project?
- The potential needs of the Department for the next 60-100 years need to be looked at.
- Currently the cost to build is roughly \$1,000 sq. ft.
- The current fire station is in a flood zone. There is concern with the rising sea level and the potential for flooding in the future.
- With the ever-increasing population; would it be more beneficial to have two manned stations in town?
- There is concern about the failing infrastructure of the Fearing Hill Road bridge.
- Joyce Bacchiocchi emailed Senator Kelly Dooner inquiring about the progress of a Public Safety Agency.

6:58 pm Next Meeting

- John Kelley will reach out to Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. asking if a representative will come out and go over the Analysis that was completed in 2012
- Next meeting tentatively set for Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 6:00 pm at 2368 Cranberry Hwy (Station 2)

7:00 pm

Adjourn

- Motion by Joyce Bacchiocchi, second Alan Slavin. Approved 10-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Allyson Bonin, Secretary 09/09/2025

Chair Joyce Paul

Vote Date 1/13/26

Clerk ABonin

Approve 7

Disapprove 0

Abstain 0