

**Board of Selectmen  
Special Meeting  
Town Hall/Zoom  
January 17, 2023 — 5:00 PM  
MINUTES**

**Members Present:** First Selectman Kevin Cwikla, Selectmen Kathleen Smith, Robin Chesmer, and Betsy Petrie-McComber; Mark DeCaprio via Zoom

**Others Present:** Hayley Wagner (Finance Director); Dean Hunniford (Director of Public Works/Facilities); Bernard Dennler (Office Manager); Jim Russo (J.R. Russo LLC)

**1.0 Call to Order**

K. Cwikla called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

**2.0 Discuss FY23-24 budget planning**

The Selectmen discussed the Legal, Selectmen's, Town Hall, and Fire Safety Complex budget. They agreed to request \$75,000 for Legal. The Selectmen's office budget request is subject to negotiation with a two percent increase used as a placeholder. They agreed to increase maintenance costs for the Fire Safety Complex. The Selectmen will meet again tomorrow to discuss Public Works and other departments.

**3.0 Discuss and act on strategy for Public Works Building project**

K. Cwikla presented a proposed timeline to bring a public works building project to Town Meeting and referendum. The plan includes the use of ARPA funds and unassigned fund balance to pay for a proposed real estate purchase for a building that could be renovated to accommodate Public Works.

J. Russo discussed estimates he prepared for the new proposal compared with the May 2019 proposal for new construction at the Fire Safety Complex showing the 2023 cost escalation for that version. The Selectmen requested he also prepare an estimate showing the cost escalation to build the October 2018 proposal at the Middle School in 2023.

The Selectmen agreed to meet again in Executive Session on Friday to discuss the possible purchase of real estate related to the proposal. K. Cwikla will provide an update to Board of Finance tonight.

**4.0 Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernard W. Dennler III  
Office Manager to the First Selectman