

A photograph of a fire station interior. In the foreground, a large metal reel holds a thick, coiled white fire hose. The background is slightly blurred, showing a red fire extinguisher mounted on a wall and a doorway leading to another part of the station. The overall lighting is warm and slightly dim.

Fire Station Project

History, Now, Future

Current Fire Station - History -



Built in 1974 / Occupied in 1975



Designed for two full-time firefighters only
working day shifts



Department did not offer ambulance service
at the time



Limited sleeping facilities were incorporated



Focus was on current space needs rather than
future growth

CHURCH STREET
NORTHBOROUGH FIRE DEPARTMENT
NORTHBOROUGH, MASS. 01532
Telephone 393-2442

Earle F. Pierce
Chief

March 8, 1974

Subject: Fire Dept. supports proposed station site

The Northborough Fire Department supports the Municipal Housing Committees proposed fire station site on Pierce St., previously the site of the St. Rose of Lima rectory. We feel this location would be adequate for the following reasons:

1. Access to and from the station would be reasonably good.
2. Physical size of the site would be adequate for a station large enough to accommodate our equipment and space requirements.
3. This site is centrally located and would allow good response time to the largest area of town.

We do not feel this is the most excellent choice of sites in town. However, due to the very high cost and limited access to other proposed sites, we feel this is the most adequate and economical proposal the committee could present.

The need for new facilities is quite obvious. The present station was built almost fifty years ago. Since then the number and size of our apparatus has increased. At this time we have equipment stored outside the station and in private storage. With larger and more modern facilities it is felt the Dept. would be better able to provide our town with more and better services that are required. We hope that all townspeople will join us in support of this article at Town Meeting.

Earle F. Pierce
Earle F. Pierce

Chief of Dept.

Current Fire Station - Details -



Steel Frame with Concrete Block



11,100 total Square Feet



Parking for trucks and ambulances is beyond maxed out



Inadequate space for current staffing &
No female facilities



Structure and mechanical systems need
repair/replace





MAXED OUT SPACE

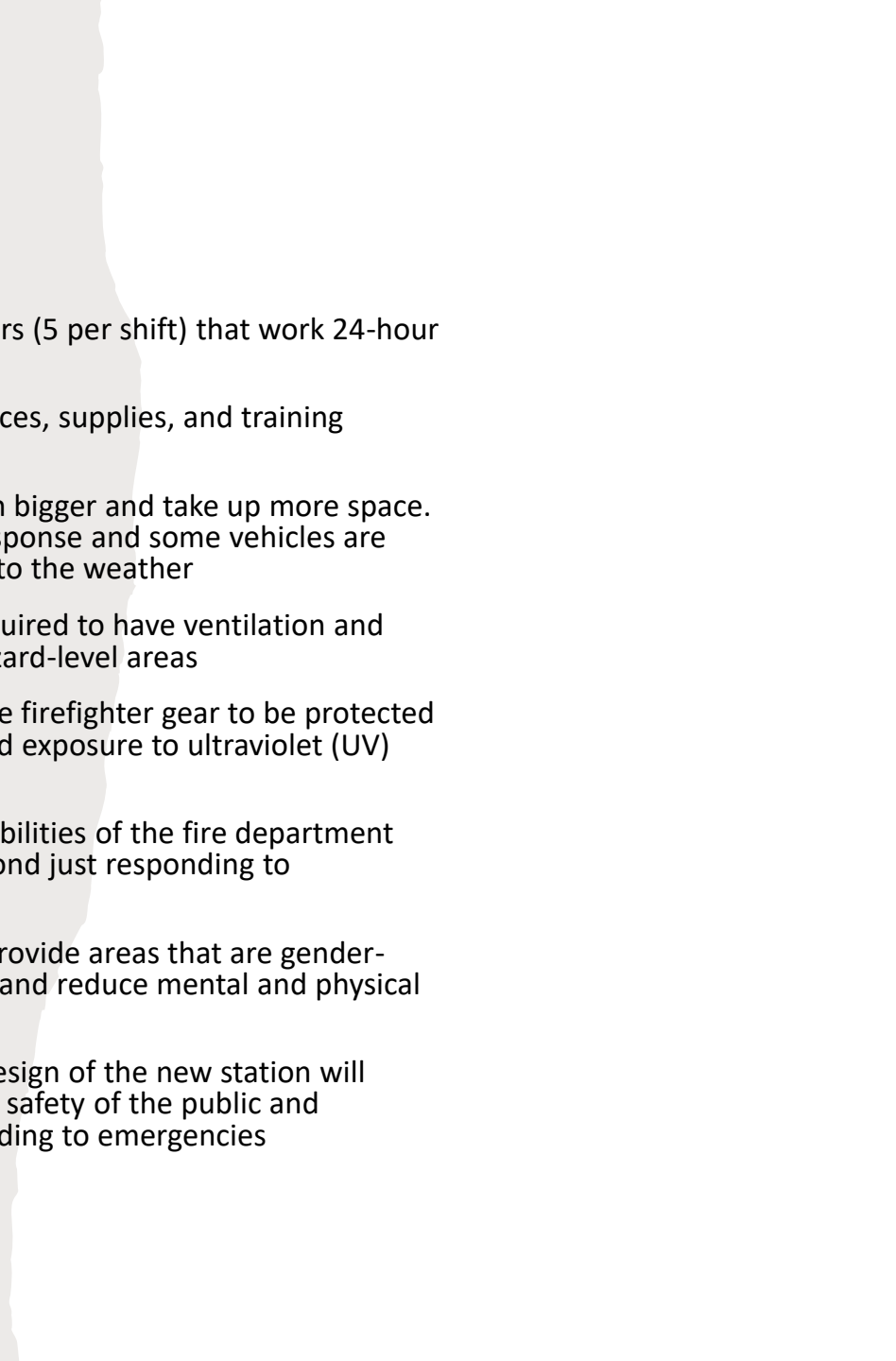
Apparatus Bay



EXPOSED TO CONTAMINATION

Firefighter Protective Gear

Need for a New Fire Station

- The station was built when there were only 2 members, who only worked 8-hour day shifts, almost 50 years ago
 - The station was built before the Department offered ambulance service
 - The station was built to house the fire trucks of the time (1970's)
 - The station was built before health hazards associated with firefighting and vehicle exhaust were fully understood (especially cancer)
 - The station was not designed to store and protect firefighting gear (structural gear)
 - The station was not designed to address the administrative space needs of the fire department
 - The sleeping quarters, restrooms, and shower facilities (multi-person use) were not designed for the current staffing levels and diverse genders
 - The chosen location of the current station did not address the dangers of responding through the West Main St and Church St intersection
- 
- • We now have 20 members (5 per shift) that work 24-hour shifts
 - • We now have 3 ambulances, supplies, and training equipment
 - • Fire trucks are now much bigger and take up more space. This causes a delay in response and some vehicles are parked outside exposed to the weather
 - • Fire stations are now required to have ventilation and separations between hazard-level areas
 - • Current standards require firefighter gear to be protected against exhaust gases and exposure to ultraviolet (UV) lights
 - • The roles & responsibilities of the fire department have expanded well beyond just responding to emergencies
 - • Fire stations must now provide areas that are gender-neutral, provide privacy, and reduce mental and physical health effects
 - • The proposed site and design of the new station will significantly increase the safety of the public and firefighters when responding to emergencies

New Fire Station Project

- Timeline - 2012 - 2019

2012 Annual Town Report

“With regard to the Fire Station, there is a project placeholder in the FY2013/2014 Capital Improvement Plan that provides for the renovation or relocation of the existing 1974 fire station. Previously appropriated capital funds in the amount of \$75,000 will be used to complete a limited Feasibility Study”

10/27/2017

First fire station feasibility committee meeting.

11/29/2018

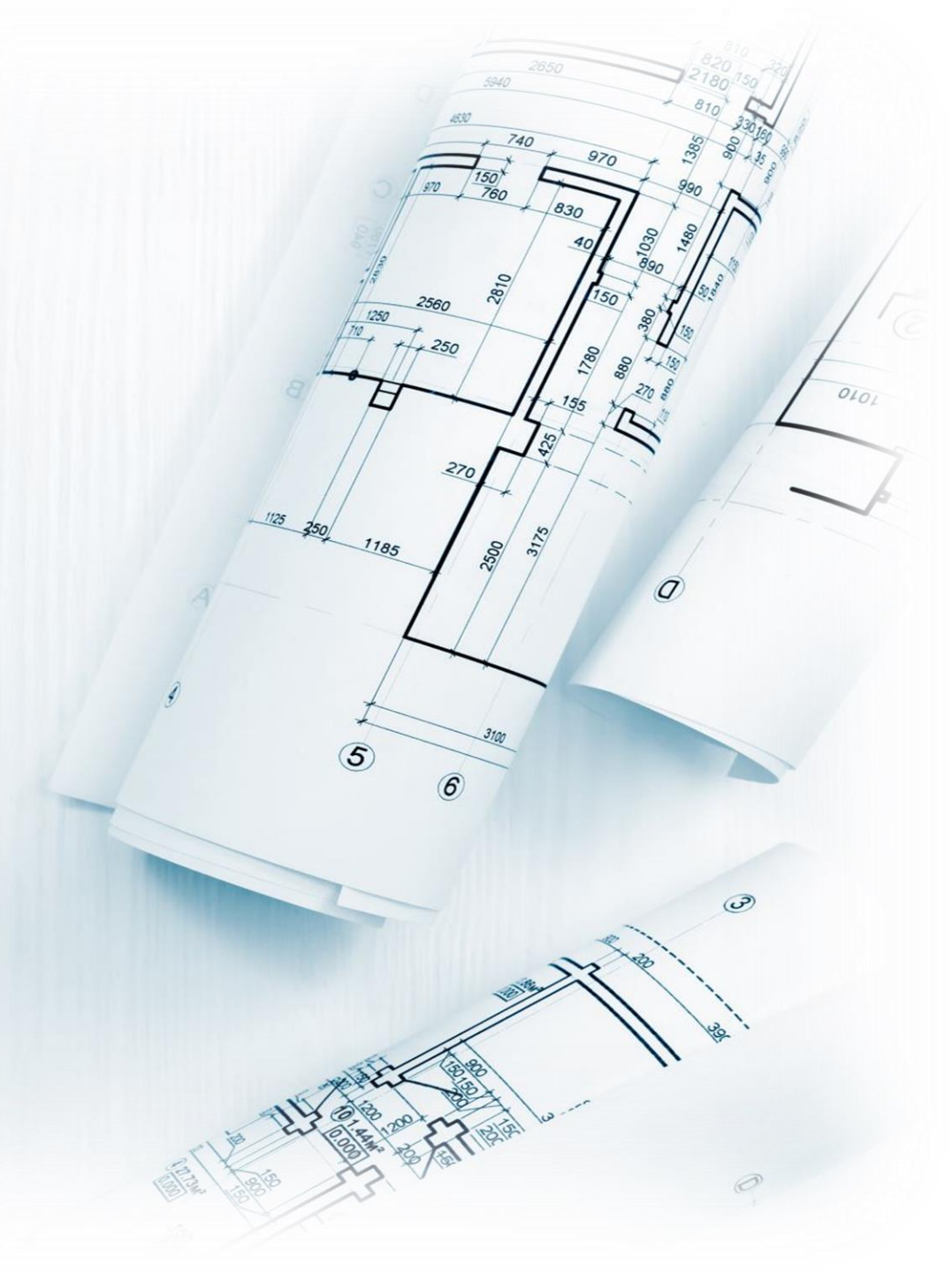
Location at 61-65 West Main Street selected

04/22/2019

Town meeting approved Article 20 and appropriated \$3,500,000 to purchase 10 Monroe, 61-65 West Main, to hire an owner's project manager and for design fees.

05/25/2019 (Approximate)

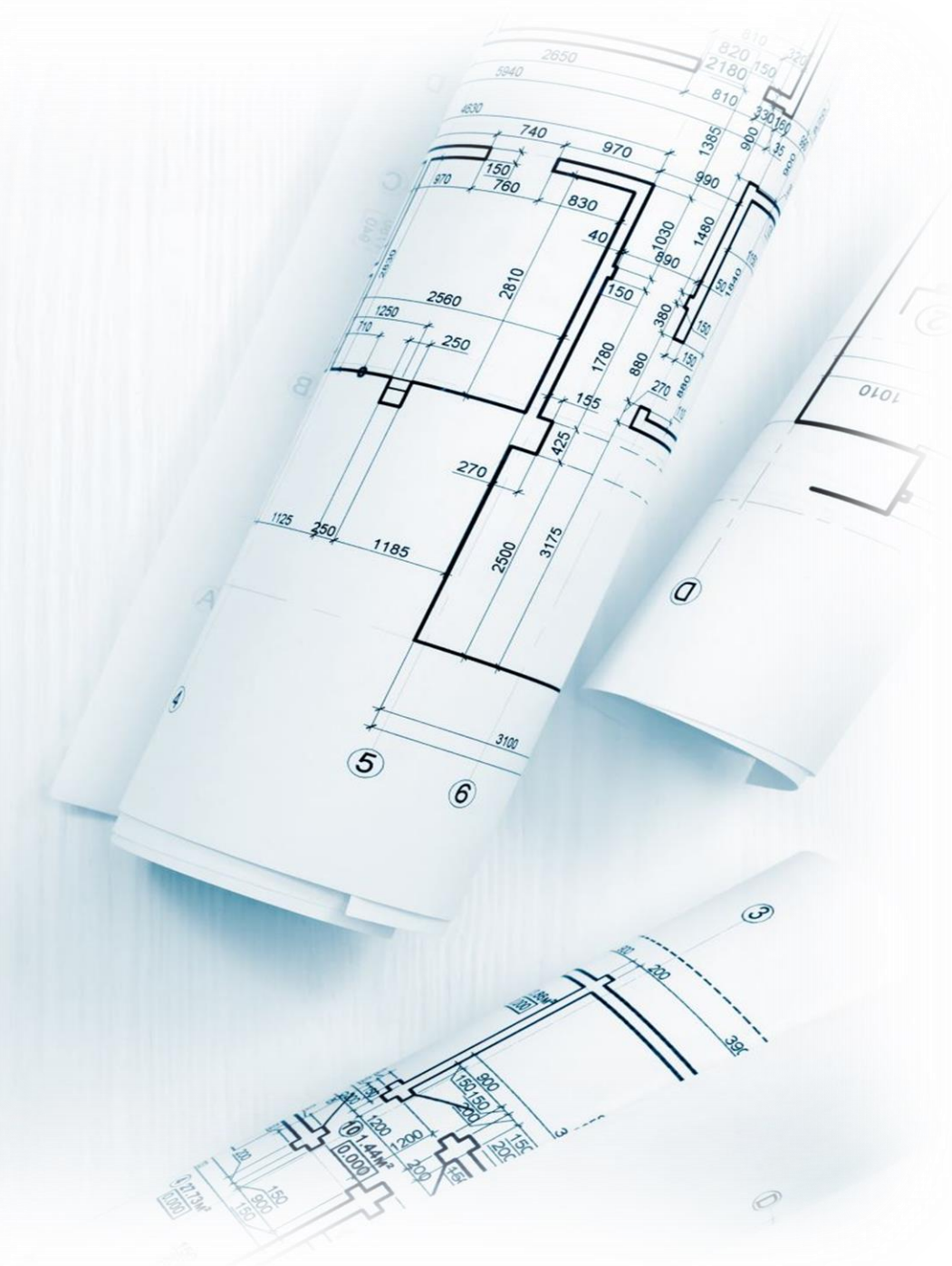
Negotiations begin with owner of 61-65 West Main Street.



New Fire Station Project

- Timeline - 2020 - 2021

- 11/18/2020**
Approval from Historic District on Demo for 61-65 West Main.
Contamination found on 61-65 West Main.
- 12/16/2020**
Purchase and Sales scheduled
- 12/31/2020**
Purchase and Sales extended
- 02/13/2021**
Purchase and Sales extended
- 04/19/2021**
Purchase and Sales extended
- 04/30/2021**
Purchase and Sales extended



New Fire Station Project

- Timeline - 2022 - Present

09/20/2022

Purchase and Sales for 61-65 West Main Executed (1,274 Days
3.41 Years)

11/10/2022

Purchase and Sales 10 Monroe Executed

03/20/2023

First Fire Station Building Committee (FSBC) meeting held

04/13/2023

Owners Project Manager (OPM) Selected

05/20/2023

Architect Selected (1,489 days after Town meeting approval 4.08
years)



A photograph of a fire station interior. In the foreground, a large metal reel holds a coiled white fire hose. In the background, a red fire extinguisher is mounted on a wall. The scene is dimly lit with a warm, reddish-brown color cast.

Fire Station Project

Thank you

Questions?