MOODUS FIREHOUSE BUILDING COMMITTEE
MUNICIPAL OFFICE COMPLEX
MEETING ROOM 1
July 23, 2026
6:00 P.M.
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER
Craig Mansfield, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:11 PM

2. ATTENDANCE
Regular Members Present: Craig Mansfield, Edward Blaschik, Irene Haines, Walter Parkus, Kevin Rutty (Zoom)
Alternate Members Present: Brad Park
Guests: Eric Cantar (Silver Petrucelli); Downes Construction: Scott Scholl (Zoom), Ben Stoner (Zoom)
Audience: none

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
Motion: Edward Blaschik moved, seconded by Walter Parkus, to approve the July 1, 2026, minutes as presented.
Discussion: None
In favor: E. Blaschik, C. Mansfield, W. Parkus, K. Rutty
Opposed: None
Abstained: I. Haines
Motion passed.

The Board of Finance has asked the MFBC to present the Moodus Firehouse project to them at their August 3, 2026, meeting. Craig has worked with Eric Cantar and Nicole DeMaio to update the presentation. A few things have changed. The Q & A from the public hearing will be addressed. Please attend this meeting if you can. Kevin and Walt cannot make it.

4. OLD BUSINESS
A. **Continued review of DD Estimate /VE Options**

B. **Silver Petrucelli & Associates**

C. **Bills and Invoices - None**

5. GENERAL DISCUSSION
A. **Board of Finance Presentation** – a few things have been clarified. Photos of the building are the same, angles of the inside are the same. The cost has increased to $15.97 million due in part to the late start in January 2027.
The original square footage was reduced by 3,000 square feet to reduce cost. We updated the project to 2027, and the bids will go out in November if approved at referendum in October.
Craig's article was not published in the EH News this week, and Craig emailed them asking to make sure it will be in next week, before the BOF meeting. The mill rate estimate has not changed.

Upcoming key dates have been changed – Board of Finance will meet on August 3, the Board of Selectmen will meet on September 2, with a Town Meeting on September 29, then hopefully a referendum on October 13.

The Fire Dept. created a short video showing the exterior and interior of the building and its deficiencies. It can be posted on our website and on the Fire Dept. website. Craig will send it to the BoF and BoS so they can see it before the meeting. Craig will forward it to the committee members too.
Comments /suggestions?
Irene Haines suggested printing out the flyer as a poster and asking the bank if they will agree to have a table displaying the project in September.
Edward Blaschik listed upcoming events and locations which provide opportunities to inform the public - Music on the River, Heritage Market, the Democratic Primary, the Transfer station on a Saturday, Hometown Market, Nutmeg Pharmacy, Hale Ray All School Reunion on August 17, the Farmers Market at the Grange, Shagbark. We would need to staff those and get permission so it may be better to spread flyers around town.
Eric Cantar suggested including how many meetings you've had, over how long, and general statistics.
Craig – and include the fact that there was another committee before this one. Stress that it's not just a garage, include the call volume, and the fact that the previous committee decided that the building could not be renovated and brought to code. Highlight the location, which has worked well for many years. The Fire Department likes the site and the plan. There will be no changes to traffic flow, and the ISO (insurance) rating will stay the same and not increase for Moodus.

B. Public Comment - none

C. Next Meeting scheduled for August 13, at 6 pm

D. Other

6. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS - none

7. ADJOURNMENT
Motion: Edward Blaschik moved, seconded by Kevin Rutty, to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 PM.
Motion passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted
Martha Hansen,
Recording Secretary