

TA Report 12.04-09 (Please Note attachments are available at town hall or you can call or email me and I will mail you any attachment you would like)

TUESDAY Senate primary is December 8, polls will be open from 7am to 8pm.

Republicans: Scott Brown, and Jack E. Robinson. Democrats: Martha Coakley, Michael Capuano, Alan Kazei, and Steve Pagliuca. *The library will hold a book sale and bake sale during the election in the senior lounge adjacent to the voting room.*

Library Site Selection The presentation was well attended by over fifty residents. The site differences, such as, a drop in elevation behind town hall, was compared to the gentle rise and a flat landscape at O-32, 180 feet of frontage in front of town hall to 450 feet of frontage, a grassy field compared to hydrangea and unusual vegetation. Traffic lanes that abut neighboring properties, a patch work of pavement and sheds next to town hall were compared to a rock wall, a dilapidated cinder block storage building and pathways into the woods at lot O-32.

The town hall site has the advantage of its central location to post office, town hall, church, common and market area. The architects proposed visual episodes in front of town buildings along Leverett Rd. to extend the sense of the village center towards the school, repeating the rock wall and plantings in front of other town properties. They suggested cleaning up the brush covering the rock wall in front of O-32 and planting maples evenly space in front.

The Leverett Rd. lot has great visibility. The lot behind town hall will need to have signage, directing people to go behind town hall to the library. The MBLC encourages prominent signage. The Pelham library has a neon sign for the library.

A concern was raised, “has the long range planning been done?” If we put the library on the front 3 acres of lot O-32 on Leverett Rd. will it mean that in the future we won’t have land available for a new safety complex, ball fields or highway garage? a school or elder housing? The architects responded that the entrance road is designed to be an access point for future use of the property on the acres behind. A building committee member described all the recent improvements that have been made at the highway department and fire department. The projects have been done to extend their use into the future. Public visibility and access is more critical for the function of a library than the function of the fire, police or highway departments. Future needs for town land are being considered in this process.



Lot O-32 Selected. The Library Facility Needs Assessment Committee, after years of study, selected the Leverett Rd. site, Lot O-32. A straw poll taken at the meeting also unanimously endorsed this site, Lot O-32.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, DECEMBER 16, 2009, 6:30pm.

A mailing is going out December 10 that will include the warrant articles for this Special Town Meeting. The warrant is posted. Please call if you have any questions.

FIRE HYDRANT REPAIR A Notice of Intent, regarding the repair of the fire hydrant that is central to Town Center, filed with the Conservation Commission and DEP, has been approved.

FIRE STATION GASOLINE LEAK A sheen was recently noted in the wetland adjacent to the fire station. DEP has been notified. Absorbent materials have placed in the area and water tests have been taken. We will know more after DEP reviews the results.

Becky Torres, Town Administrator, please call or email if you have questions.

**Shutesbury
Holiday Market
December 5,
10am to 3pm
at the Shutesbury
Elementary
School**