

PRESENTATION – 32 HOYT STREET PROPERTY

October 6, 2014 (Board of Selectmen)

1. REVIEW MAP – DESCRIBE AREA/PROXIMITY TO SCHOOL
(Mike Lynch) .28 acres

2. RATIONALE FOR PURCHASE:

- a. SAFETY/SECURITY OF STUDENTS – large percentage of students are walkers to this Kindergarten-Grade 5 elementary school of 473 students; parking lot is where parents drop-off/walkers arrive and small vans or buses drop-off and pick-up students with disabilities; school very concerned about safety; unable to regulate private homeowners and guests/family who drive thru parking lot, consistent with the homeowners right-of-way or easement. Although the school has processes and controls the flow of students, parental drop-off/pick-up of students, the school has no control over when or how the homeowners drive through the parking lot. This continues to be a significant concern on the part of the school administration and parents.

b. FLEXIBILITY – The Board recently hired Milone & MacBroom to complete a long-range facilities use study for all buildings, included an in-depth review of projected student enrollments for the future . Holmes School is located on a “tight” sight, with little if any room for expansion, should that be a future consideration. It is wise to acquire this quarter acre for future planning on a long-term basis. On a short-term basis, acquisition of this land parcel could be used as “swing” space for the location of staff, NOT students. Currently, a review is underway of potential costs of minimal alterations to meet code if the home were to be needed as swing space. Such expenditures would be compared to the estimated cost of \$75,000 to demolish the current structure. The Board of Education will assess the financial ramifications of demolition of the building versus the feasibility of short-term usage. Short-term usage could include office space for staff either from Holmes or non-instructional district-wide staff; use for professional development meetings/Team meetings; necessary storage of instructional materials and supplies for Holmes School, etc.

Interim Super

Dr. Rierson's "remarks" -