



**TOWN OF TEMPLETON
SELECT BOARD
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Press Release - For Immediate Release
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Select Board Votes to approve DDA with MPZ Development, LLC

On September 9th, 2020, the Templeton Select Board voted to approve the Developer Designation Agreement (DDA) with MPZ Development LLC, the firm has been designated to redevelop the former Baldwinville Elementary School into fifty market rate and affordable community housing. The proposed plan will convert the school into approximately 16 rental housing units, community space and administrative staff space and an additional 34 units.

The school rehabilitation will meet the National Parks Service's standards for historic preservation with a hoped-for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The project has been a few years in the making since the School was closed in 2019. The Chair of the Select Board, Michael Currie, had stated after the vote that "This was a great step forward in creating affordable homes in our community, something that has been part of this board's work for a few years now."

He went on to say that there are at least two initiatives in Templeton to strengthen the community's ability in creating or preserving affordable housing, the other being a Community Preservation Housing Trust that would give the town some flexibility when affordable housing units were in jeopardy of going back on the open market.

Mathieu Zahler, Principal of MPZ Development LLC stated "MPZ Development LLC couldn't be happier to begin what will be a phenomenal redevelopment of the Baldwinville School and construction of a new building with the Town of Templeton. It is so wonderful to be able to participate in what will be the transformation of a beautiful historic building that will add to the existing vibrancy of the Baldwinville neighborhood. It's going to take the help of the entire community but will certainly result in a great development."