



Fire Station Building Review Committee

Approved
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 9, 2015

Selectman Allan N. Brown opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

In Attendance: Selectman Allan N. Brown, Howard Kirchner – citizen at large, Peter Ladd – Energy Committee, Kimberley Edelmann – Budget Committee, Lois Lord – resident/Land Use Secretary,

Excused: Peter Wyman and Ed Raymond (responded to a fire call)

Absent: Anthony Mento, Jim Bingham, Janice Loz

Others present: Steve Bridgewater, Steve Hall, Varick Proper, Charlie Zahn

- A. Kimberley provided one of the original lists of what was required of the current design. The current design has space for future growth, for example, space for over night occupancy.
- B. The members discussed if Warner would ever become a transport department and all agreed big changes would need to happen first before that would happen such as a mall or major hotel. The population projection still shows Warner under 3,000 people 25 years out. Peter Ladd said the new fire station still needs to include rescue.
- C. Howard asked how many years out should the committee be looking ahead. Selectman Brown said 15 to 25 years out with the ability to expand. Peter Ladd said in the last 20 years the fire department has gone from a fire department to a rescue department, 70% of calls are rescue. Selectman Brown would like to see a breakdown of the calls, fire versus rescue, etc. Kimberley thinks it would be important to know how many calls are for the nursing homes and medical offices.
- D. The committee talked about creating a video presentation showing the conditions within the station during a fire/rescue call. Selectman Brown said a visual is needed showing how much a standard vehicle is taller than the garage doors. Kimberley said she is still not convinced a \$3million fire station is needed. Selectman Brown said he too will be hard to convince \$3 million is needed for a new station.
- E. Howard feels a generic fire station plan should be created without a piece a land to put it on, just the plan.
- F. Selectman Brown said Provan & Lorber has completed a site assessment on the property that is being considered (Map 34 Lot 20-2) showing a building on the lot which is 66' x 106' showing room for future expansion and 46 parking spaces set back about 200' from Main St. Selectman Brown then took the fire station plans already created and placed it on plot which also fits.

Committee members Peter Wyman and Ed Raymond returned to the meeting at about 6:30 pm.

- G. One feature that is needed is to have the building be a drive through building. Selectman Brown asked Ed if it would be easier to have a satellite building that holds the boat and trailer etc. Ed feels it would be easier to maintain everything under one roof.
- H. Ed provided any information that he could find regarding the findings from the past committee.
- I. Ed said he would prefer a room (gear room) that will hang all the gear along with a washer & dryer.

- J. The committee asked Ed to obtain the insurance requirements. The placement of a fire station could raise insurance costs for homeowners.
- K. Selectman Brown said the question that needs to be answered is what is being done to contain costs. There is mutual-aid. Kimberley said the fire department has put off purchases that they shouldn't have. The fire station staff put on an addition with volunteer help. Ed said he is frugal about not buying things that are not needed, but he said as each year goes by he's finding the need for tools they don't have and have had to borrow from other towns. If there are multiple calls then they have to reach deeper into the contacts to borrow equipment. Kimberley said they have applied for grants. The current site has no room for expansion. Peter Ladd added the advantage to a new building is the energy savings.
- L. Selectman Brown asked what can be done to regionalize? Peter Wyman said doing so will increase response time. Ed said this has been talked about back in the 70's because that is how they run things out West. Right now there is mutual-aid available between towns. Peter Ladd said right now Warner backs up Bradford and Bradford backs up Warner and if you start sharing who will back you up. Ed said Concord Hospital has a Dr. that is a medical director and carries a radio listening to the calls and he will sign in if he hears about a bad accident.
- M. How do the economic and population trends in the area affect and influence the issues raised in the matters of staffing and facility size and design? Kimberley said part of the answer is the expected population trend which shows Warner just under 3,000 in 2040. Having I-89 going through is another impact.
- N. What should be the anticipated life span of the facility? What is the potential for cost effective expansion of the facility to meet future demand? Kimberley said from a financial point of view, how long will it take to pay for. The townspeople will expect the building to out live the term of the loan. Selectman Brown said the committee also needs to determine how much to spend. Kimberley said if the fire station goes on the proposed property, which she thinks is a lovely location, and build 10 years worth of what is needed and expand later, that changes the financial aspect in a good way. Varick said the committee should look at the buildings that have been built and have had to go back and address some issues such as lighting for the Highway Department, siding was just replaced at the Police Department after only 15 years. Kimberley said the building could be L shaped with offices on one side and a garage on the other for all the equipment. The offices could be built efficiently and the garage for the equipment could be more like a garage. Selectman Brown said if the offices could be kept on one level then you can get away with not having an elevator due to ADA requirements. Adding a solar roof was mentioned as well.
- O. Kimberley said the next question will be if a building is built with a 20 year outlook what happens on the 21st year. Selectman Brown said if an addition is needed there will be space to do so. Kimberley said another factor is keeping the building maintained to last longer.
- P. The next meeting is scheduled for September 16 beginning at 6:00pm.
- Q. Steve Hall asked how to get more people to the meetings. Kimberley offered to do an article in the Intertown Record.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Whalen
Recording secretary