

Firehouse Renovation Building Committee, Town of East Haddam

Town of East Haddam
Firehouse Renovation Building Committee
January 25, 2017
Adopted February 8, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the East Haddam Firehouse Renovation Building Committee was held on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Company 2 Firehouse.

2. Attendance

Meeting Attendance: Brian Auld, Kevin Cavallo, Shawn Daigle, Dean Anderson (arrived 7:35 p.m.), Michael Davis, Jennifer Spencer, First Selectman Emmett Lyman, Cindy Varricchio, George Fellner, and Ruth Ziobron-Recording Secretary.

Absent Members: Bruce Dutch, Ed Smith and Raymond Swol.

Jennifer Spencer seated for Ed Smith.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from regular meeting dated January 4, 2017.

Motion by Ms. Spencer to approve the January 4, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Davis and unanimously passed.

4. New Business

A. Review any further updates regarding the bid specifications for the Moodus Firehouse #2 including the current status of the bid. Nothing new.

B. Review the recently received ventilation system quote.

A proposal from Air Cleaning Specialists of New England, dated January 6, 2017 was reviewed. It is filed at the Selectman's Office. It was noted station #2 quote does not take into account bay expansion.

-Station #1. \$47,060.00

-Station #2. \$37,600.00

C. Review the building renovation priority list for the Town Street Firehouse.

The committee reviewed and edited a renovation priority list for the Town Street Firehouse. An updated list based on discussions will be provided at the next meeting.

Mr. Auld stated the vehicle exhaust system priority was for Company #1; because it was the pay staff's headquarters, emergency management and East Haddam Ambulance. Mr. Auld voiced concern with vehicles being stored outdoors, noting a 2 bay addition would satisfy storage needs. Mr. Cavallo stated based on the budget, items would need to be cut from the renovation project. Mr. Cavallo questioned the lifespan of Company #2. He asked if there would be alternate town funding in the future. First Selectman Lyman stated town spending was relatively flat, however taxes were increasing. He explained the top two tax payers in town had changed their

Firehouse Renovation Building Committee, Town of East Haddam

tax status, which would decrease tax revenue. The State of Connecticut's budget will be cutting municipal funding; which would require an increase in property tax. Current examples this upcoming year; paramedic funding has been held with no increase for one year and the Senior Center meals and Meals on Wheels Program have been drastically cut. First Selectman Lyman stated these are programs in which people are in need of; and that the services have incurred additional unforeseen costs to the town. He anticipates more indirect cuts from the State; adding additional expense to the town. First Selectman Lyman explained since 2008, there had been approximately \$1,000,000 of lost secondary income to the town. Previously the town savings account received over \$400,000 in interest, but lower interest rates for the same amount of money are generating approximately \$30,000. Revenue generating activity by the IWWC, P&Z, Town Clerk etc. has also decreased since 2008. First Selectman Lyman informed the committee that the state would be putting more financial burden on property owners. He does not anticipate future additional funding by the town for this project. Mrs. Varricchio added the State had imposed a 2 ½ % spending cap with specific guidelines.

The committee will contact the First Selectman's Office and Ed Smith to get copies of two previous engineering reports. Mr. Fellner suggested a 3rd party engineer review both reports.

Mr. Fellner told the committee that Mr. Turner had requested hazardous material testing of the Town Street Firehouse by Fuss and O'Neill. If there is hazardous material; removal would add expense to the project.

First Selectman Lyman suggested investigating secondary town storage for vehicles.

Ms. Spencer stated because the town was considered a dedicated site for shelter, there was a Red Cross trailer requiring storage. Investigation is necessary to determine if the Red Cross trailer will be stored in the new Municipal Office garage.

Town approval will be necessary if the committee decides not to put an exhaust system in Company 2.

Craig Mansfield will be contacted regarding audio/video wiring repairs.

Committee members suggested repurposing the Firehouse and Ambulance budgets to fund project deficits. This would require BOF and BOS approval. Mrs. Varricchio reviewed the Firehouse and Ambulance reserve funds. She suggested not adding an appropriation and using the building maintenance line item in this year's budget. Mrs. Varricchio asked the committee to compile a summary with funding sources.

The committee will not be ready for a town meeting in February.

D. Discuss recently received Bills.

Motion by Mr. Auld and second by Ms. Spencer to approve the following bills.

Feller Associates Architects LLC	\$1,140.00
Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.	107.50
Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.	150.50
Hartford Courant	158.94
Committee Clerk	381.30

Motion passed unanimously.

E. Review any updates from town officials (Including but not limited to Planning and Zoning, Land Use, Building Inspectors, Faculties Director, Public Works Director and Town Attorney). – There was nothing new.

5. General Discussion-Nothing new.

6. Overview of next meeting scheduled for February 1, 2017.

Motion by Mr. Cavallo to cancel the February 1, 2017 meeting. Second by Mr. Davis and unanimously passed.

Motion by Mr. Cavallo to schedule a Special Meeting on February 8, 2017. Second by Ms. Spencer and unanimously passed.

7. Audience of Citizens

There was none.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Daigle at 8:18 p.m. to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Auld and unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Shawn Daigle
Secretary