

April 8, 2015

Fire Facility Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Attending: Bill Elwell, Matt Lathrop, Diane Cushman, Ed Hanson, Brian Fox, Terry Farr, Liz Hermann, Dan Heath, and Brett LaRose. Also attended by: Porter Knight, Michelle Perlee, Sydney Perlee, Betty Anderson, Mary Baker, Amos Martin, James Goodyear, Alan Huizenga, Chris Griggs, Lance Perlee, Carl Gile, Kris Perlee, Will Elwell, Andrew Volansky, Milford Cushman, Kevin Harper, Therese Kirby and filmed for NEAT TV by Mary Arbuckle, Joel Bouvier, Neale Schuman, Craig Allen and reported for the Addison Independent by Zach Despart,

1. At 7:00 pm, Bill Elwell called the meeting to order. Liz Hermann moved to approve the minutes of March 29, 2015. Brett LaRose seconded. So voted.

2. Milford Cushman met with Bill Elwell and Matt Lathrop last week at the Annex at the Bristol Fire Station to work on drawings and adjacencies. Milford said the drawings show 10,700 square feet and he feels they have given the Committee everything they asked for. Milford and Andrew presented an updated program. There is 2,950 square feet downstairs not including the apparatus bay and 2,790 square feet on the upper floor. Andrew outlined the first responder's private one way entrance and the reserved parking, so the Committee could understand the flow of the space as they laid it out. They also took into consideration that other Town employees, beside the fire fighters, would use the exercise room, so they created that so it would have easy access from outside. There is an elevator in this design and Milford went over the other access and egresses. There are 36 mobile lockers included in this design, so it will be able to be reconfigured if they needed to use the space differently in the future or a special event or training. They are designing a space to balance a working station with any public need. Andrew outlined the upstairs proposed layout. The community/training/dining room, kitchen with secure pantry, seating at tables for 64 people, the exercise room, dayroom and mechanical rooms are upstairs. There will be some opportunity for glass in the wall so people would be able to look into the apparatus bay. They presented the north elevation which is the most visible from West Street. They are also working with Efficiency Vermont to control costs and become more energy efficient. Andrew explained the cohesiveness of the design and possible siding materials. They also showed the view from "Stoney Hill Drive" that would showcase the antique hose cart and antique fire truck in a museum like bay. They passed around different samples of siding materials of concrete board and another cement board product; a bevel siding. There are awning windows of 4' x 6', with triple glazing, which is a standard product, R48 and R70 insulation values to help the building be more cost effective. No metal siding is proposed. The proposed siding materials are low maintenance and durable.

3. Comments: Brett LaRose likes the open concept gear area. Brett wanted to know if there was adequate wall area to hang one sided lockers if they need to down the road, and Milford and Andrew said yes. Dan Heath suggested they move the mechanical elevator room upstairs so they could have an additional bathroom or easier access to a bathroom on the main level, without going through the locker room. Terry Farr wondered about a separate area for the compressor in the air room. This will depend on whether or not they use the current compressor they own, or if they purchase a new one. Dan Heath

also wanted to clarify that only the bottom windows are accessible. Terry Farr wanted to know about the mezzanine in the training area and if it could be included with the amount of insulation they plan to use. Milford also realized they did not include display cases for memorabilia, which they will correct in the next layout. Brett LaRose wanted Terry to clarify if a stand alone compressor could fit in the upstairs mechanical room. Andrew asked them to get them specs on the equipment and they will see how it lays out. There was a discussion about the size of the current compressor used to run the air horn. Terry suggested it could be on the mezzanine. Dan Heath said it could be hung from the ceiling like it is in Middlebury. Dan also thought it made sense to put the insulation above the deck. He also suggested not installing ceiling tiles as they are a maintenance issue down the road. Kevin Harper introduced Alan Huizenga as the civil engineer for the project. He wants people to know there have been a lot of site issue assumptions that have been made, so he wants the Committee members to be aware they may have to tweak a couple of things due to site information. Once Alan Huizenga gets working on the site information, he will let Kevin Harper know if anything comes up that may affect the design.

4. Bill Elwell wanted to know if the Committee wanted to meet one more time, pass that information to the Cushman Group, then have them back. Terry Farr feels the Cushman Group has done a great job listening to the Committee and their suggestions. Terry feels the public should not have direct access into the apparatus bay, and Andrew said they could fix that with a key pad/code system. Matt Lathrop clarified the Selectboard wants other Town employees to have access to the exercise room, so they would not have to continue to pay gym memberships. Kevin Harper asked if the Committee felt they were driving the project and they said yes. Terry Farr feels they have done about a year and half's amount of work in just two months. Bill Elwell said they feel this will be a legacy project and have felt they have been heard, and this is their design. The Committee will meet again and forward that information to the Cushman Group. Diane asked the distance between the parking and the entrance.

5. Public Forum: Craig Allen wondered when they think they would need a fourth bay. Brett said the fourth bay proposed is to house historical equipment, but could be extended to house additional apparatus if needed. However, looking at their current equipment schedule, they are looking to downsize the number of apparatus. Craig also wondered if it was going to be a flat roof or peaked. Milford said they are very comfortable with flat roof technology. Joel Bouvier wanted to know how many lockers were in the co-ed locker room and Andrew explained there were two options based on the size of the lockers. Joel also wanted to know if the laundry room needed to be this deep. Andrew said due to a recent conversation with the Fire Marshall, they included it this size, but are going to verify that with him. Bill Elwell said this size is based on the washer and extractor information that Terry provided and there was a lot of clearance around the equipment. Dan Heath also said he has visited other stations that have a large laundry room, so they can store the items that need to be laundered. Joel asked if the laundry room had to be a separate room and Milford said no. Michelle Perlee asked if they would include a shower in another bathroom once they add it, and Andrew said they could. Porter Knight likes the idea of displaying the antique apparatus and wonders where that visibility will be and its access. Bill Elwell said they would have open houses and times it would be accessible. Brett said they are also hoping for extra glass, so people can look in if the building is closed. Discussion regarding sidewalks. Porter wanted to know if there should be a double door upstairs in the community room. Joel asked

about adding windows into the air room and the other officer's room. Liz wanted to know if they needed a second egress out of the community room. Andrew said he believes they do and they will rework that. James Good year wanted to know about access from upstairs to the apparatus bay. Joel is concerned about losing storage space. They will shift the building forward 4' and keep the hallway and storage space. Milford's largest concern is the size of the piece of the equipment that needs to go into the air room. He also has auditory concerns regarding the space for the air compressor. Bill Elwell thanked the Cushman Group for the work they have done.

6. The next meeting will be April 14th at 7pm at the Fire Station Annex. Neale Schuman does not favor this design and would like a firm out of New York that specializes in fire stations to present another design. Porter Knight is very impressed with what she has seen and is wondering how many schemes they saw. Matt Lathrop said there was three schemes presented, and they chose scheme b. Bill Elwell said he cannot say enough good about how well he feels the Cushman Group is listening to the Committee. Porter liked how they took information and feedback from the Committee and how they turned it into a design with such good flow. She disagrees with Neale Schuman and thinks this is a wonderful design. Chris Griggs likes the aesthetics of the outside but feels like the offices should be upstairs. Brett explained that this was discussed at a previous meeting and from a day to day use of the building he felt offices downstairs were the best, and felt that would be especially true if there was an activity upstairs. Chris feels like it is cramped over all and would like the overall design to grow. Terry Farr moved to adjourn at 8:53 pm. Brett LaRose seconded. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Therese Kirby
Town Administrator