

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting minutes of Wednesday, May 17, 2006

Members:

Charles Packard	Phil Esposito
Gail Dumont	Larry Barrett
Jason Bergeron	Al Rickheit
Chris Gagnon	Jeff Brooks, absent
Mary Neal, absent	

Guests:

Curtis Edgin of Caolo & Bieniek Assoc. Inc.
Richard Wright of Ashburnham Hardware Store

Distributions to committee:

- ❖ Official membership list from Sylvia
- ❖ 2 financial pages from Town Accountant, Jim Shanahan
- ❖ Recent e-mails from Project Manager, Dave Lager
- ❖ Piano Museum summary from TA, Kevin Paicos

After the call to order at 7:07 PM by Chris Gagnon, Comm. Chair, Chief Barrett introduces Curtis Edgin, of Caolo & Bieniek, to the committee members and Richard Wright, of Ashburnham Hardware. Chris Gagnon explains to Curtis Edgin that the hardware store is a 26,000 sq. ft. building that Richard Wright has offered to sell to the town for 2.8 million dollars to renovate as a PSB. Richard Wright then asks if we could tour the building with Curtis Edgin, architect, to hear the pros and cons of the hardware store's potential as a PSB.

Curtis joins our meeting after the tour and answers some questions the committee has. Curtis informs us that the building site on 101 needs to be stabilized. Holden Sand and Gravel knew the site needed to be finished and was supposed to start when the weather broke, in early spring. There is a concern about the condition of the road and what repairs may need to be made if the site is not stabilized soon. Curtis will send a letter to Holden Sand and Gravel recommending that they complete their contract with the Town of Ashburnham and will also send a letter to TA Kevin Paicos.

Estimated costs were tossed around (all speculation) with Curtis. Curtis cautioned making any decisions until we knew our money situation. He agreed to get his information to us and suggested we have Dave Lager, of NETCO, the project manager from the previous building committee, help sort out the accounting with our Town Accountant, Jim Shanahan. Chris will invite Jim to our next meeting so we can move forward realistically.

Curtis agrees to get together with the Chief and Jason to see what, if any thing can be cut from the program, but allowing the program to function properly and still expanding on the present conditions. They will write a new space needs list, but the Chief cautions and explains upfront that the Emergency Dispatch Center can NOT be reduced in any way.

The Chief tells us about the sixty five thousand dollar grant he has applied for to purchase new

computers for the police department. He also explains about the new state 911 that will be installed in the new facility. The old 911 will remain on and running until the new is installed and working. There will be overlaps for a short period of time.

Chris brought up the subject of using Monty Tech students and the Sheriffs Dept. inmates, to Curtis, to do some of the work and reduce our costs. Both those departments would not work with or for the contractor. They would have to work for the Town of Ashburnham, therefore a possibility of using them in the future for maintaining the building and grounds. Chris also brought up that he will suggest and discuss a Bond Anticipation Note in regards to this building project with Kevin Paicos.

We confirmed having the Public Building Tri-Committee/SWOT meeting to take place on Thursday, June 1, 2006, at 7:00 PM in Town Hall. A facilitator needs to be found. Gail Dumont had suggested asking Dave Uminski as a possibility. The possibility of finding someone through Cushing Academy or our State Rep. was also suggested. This meeting is for public input as suggestions and not so much a question and answer evening.

Before closing, Gail Dumont asked Richard Wright if the 2.8 million dollar selling price for the hardware store was a firm price or was there room for negotiations? His response was a firm "no negotiations".

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 25, 2006 at 7:00 PM in the Selectman's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Dumont