

VMS Building Use Committee

Open Hearing Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2013

I. Call to order

Bill Johnson called to order a regular meeting of the **VMS Building Use Committee** at **6:40pm** on **January 15th 2013** at the Town Hall.

II. Roll call

Bill Johnson, Cheryl Goller, Dave Stewart, Mark Carlisle, Meredith Fagan, Rebecca Cinclair
In attendance: Betsy from Hometown News, Michael Hartwell from Sentinel & Enterprise

III. Review of the Final Report

- a) Do we add; Sell the building as an option? It's not really an option but perhaps add in the report, see attached. Include that the land cannot be subdivided.
- b) Went through all reports that will be attached to the Final report.
- c) Should we include meeting minutes? No suggested. Anyone can view the minutes through the town hall website.
- d) Can we put a time on moth balling? Don't believe we can

IV. Discussion and comments before final vote of recommendation

- a) Options 1 & 2 are essentially the same
- b) Building has served its purpose. Put the Park back to its original state, the original vision when the land was donated for a park.
- c) Ashburnham has invested heavily in buildings, the town can't support all of its assets
- d) The building is structurally sound, tearing it down is not beneficial to the town
- e) Would like to renovate for use at some point in the future but doesn't want to pay for it
- f) Tearing down is not a priority for the town. The town has much higher priorities right now.
- g) Tear down and build a better memorial for the Veterans
- h) Leasing is not an option

V. Recommendation of the Veterans Memorial School building

- a) Bill Johnson motion for option#6, Tear Down
3 in favor, 3 against
Discussion
- b) Motion for option#6.
3 – 3 tie
Discussion – If we can't make a recommendation perhaps the town will form a new committee and do this all over again. It is our responsibility to make a final recommendation in the end and a tie is not a recommendation.
- c) Cheryl makes a motion to revote on option#6.
4 in favor 2 against

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VI. Approval of Minutes – August 13 & September 9

- a) August 13th 2012 – approved
- b) September 9th 2012 - approved

VII. Adjournment

Bill Johnson adjourned the meeting at **8:30pm**.
Next Meeting: TBD
Location:

Minutes submitted by: Cheryl Goller

Minutes approved by: Committee