



Firehouse Study Committee  
174 Main Street  
Deep River, Connecticut 06417

**Regular Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2011**

The meeting was called to order on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm by John Kollmer.

**Members in Attendance:** John Kollmer, Tim Lee, Tim Ballantyne, Dave Berardis, Steve David and Paul Carlson

**Audience of Citizens:** None

Steve David suggested we try and get some feedback from residents about how they feel about plans for expanding the firehouse. Steve had a few people express to him “what part of no doesn’t the fire department understand”. Meaning why is the department still trying to move this addition forward when it was defeated twice. Steve doesn’t want to see this Committee spending a lot of time and effort if it’s going to be voted down again. Paul Carlson & Dave Berardis pointed out that the last vote was really close and yes, there are still going to be people that disagree with the fire department’s intentions. It was agreed by all that a survey of some sort is needed to get true measure on how residents feel. John Kollmer will contact the Dick Smith to obtain the e-mail list from the Town’s website. A webpage should also be created on the site so that people can submit their comments as well.

Tim Ballantyne reported that he reviewed the ISO information and in order to maintain the current rating a Deep River Firehouse needs to be within 5 road miles of the furthest insured property. For example the last house on Winterberry Road, off River Road, is 3.4 miles from the Union Street station. The most important criteria of the ISO are water supplies available for fire fighting. The Winthrop section of town has no hydrants so having the addition fire station helps our rating. Dave Berardis asked if consolidating the two stations was feasible within the margins of the ISO rating. Paul Carlson mentioned it could also be a great selling point. Steve David mentioned that the Diffindal property at 4 Winthrop Road could be a prime central location. More study would have to be done to determine if this location would cover all areas of Deep River under the current ISO plan. Discussion ensued with regard to alternate locations and the pros and cons of purchasing property for such a project.

Tim Lee reviewed some of the work that the previous building committee had done. Some of the information dated back to 1992 when the fire department was looking to acquire some land behind the Winthrop Station from the Spallone Family to expand at that location. Apparently, those plans fell through due to wetlands and the subdividing of the properties. Also in the information Tim was given was a detailed report done by B&L Companies on the Union Street Station.



Firehouse Study Committee  
174 Main Street  
Deep River, Connecticut 06417

Paul Carlson suggested that we possibly hold a public hearing at the Firehouse to really show residents how cramped things are in the building. Tim Ballantyne mentioned that the previous committee held open houses at the station with minimal turn outs.

John Kollmer will start the Phase 1 report from the information we've collected thus far and have a draft for the committee to review at the next meeting. Paul Carlson and Tim Ballantyne will draft a mission statement to be included in the draft.

John Kollmer will also contact Dick Smith to see if he has found our seventh Committee member. The Committee has a few recommendations and John will discuss them with Dick.

The Committee will officially meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month.

After the adjournment, the Committee will visit the Deep River Firehouse, as Paul Carlson has not seen the inside of the building.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectively Submitted,

John R. Kollmer  
Chairman