

Town Center Meeting

September 22, 2015 6:00 PM

Present: Julie Glover, Town Administrator; Cary Brown; David Meeker; Thomas Dronsfield, Chief of Police; Ron Pitkin; Chuck Cox; Paul Gasowski; Janet Allen; Robin Estee; Caren Rossi, Planning and Zoning Administrator; Ruth Eifert, Library Director; Larry Kindberg

Absent: Lori Wright; Scott Nemet, Fire Chief; Deb Schanda

Ms. Glover handed out a spreadsheet of the “Pros and Cons” that she created from email replies she had received. Ms. Glover explained that as you look at the list, a “pro” could also be seen as a “con” under some of the headings, such as cost was listed under both headings for the Town Center Addition. There was discussion that no one choice stood out as the “one” choice that most decided on, or that one suggestion had more “pros” than “cons”.

There was discussion about different “pros” and “cons” for each heading until it was decided to go through the list item by item to determine if there was a consensus about what items should remain on the list. One item that was removed from each of the lists was the cost issue, since no one really knows what the costs will be unless the Select Board authorizes the expenditure of funds to determine the costs of possible solution.

One issue that was reiterated for each of the headings was that the Town Hall will need to be renovated for future use. The cost of the renovations may be different depending on the option chosen since the use of the Town Hall may be different, such as if the Town Hall Addition was chosen versus a new Town Hall at Stevens Field. In all of the cases there would be septic and well issues that need to be resolved; either creating a new septic system in the case of the Town Hall Addition and the building on Stevens Field, or just adding on to the existing site with the addition to the Public Safety Complex. There was also discussion that with any choice, the renovations, additions, or buildings could be done in phases, to make it more appealing to the taxpayers.

The decision was made to review all “Pros” and “Cons” based on three of the options; “Town Center Addition”, “New Building Stevens Field”, and “Add to PSC”. Ms. Glover will provide a revised “Pros” and “Cons” list that removes the items that the consensus felt could be removed.

Next Meeting: At the Public Safety Complex on October 5th. The committee will review the list again and prepare a presentation for the Board of Selectmen. After a motion was made, and seconded, it was voted that Ms. Glover will extend an invitation to the Library Trustees to attend this next meeting so that they are aware of the choices and provide any suggestions. Chief Dronsfield will be unable to attend this meeting.