

# Safety Complex and Other Options Committee

## Meeting Minutes

### July 9, 2015

Acting Chairman John Pomer called the meeting to order at 7:00pm at Citizens' Hall.

Roll call: Bob Rogers, Walter Holland, Mark Chamberlain, Rick McQuade, Russ Gaudiana, Wally Holt, Tim McEntee, Rich Velliux. Scott Roper joined the meeting in progress.

#### MINUTES:

The Committee reviewed meeting minutes from June 4, 2015.

**VOTE: Bob Rogers moved to accept the June minutes. Mark Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

Tonight is the second meeting of the committee. The first meeting was an organizational meeting. Scott Roper was nominated chairperson. John Pomer was nominated vice-chair. The committee toured the police station.

#### Action items:

Members should read the previous space needs reports.

John Pomer made the comment the Committee is in the discovery and gathering information phase. The committee will tour town safety buildings. Further down the line they will have to see what the town can actually do or afford.

We need to see what the fire department needs to get the job done properly. We need to bring forward information for an idealized facility.

Chief Rick McQuade, LFD, will submit a plan at the next meeting. The building has grown since the first plan was drawn and he will update it to have all the elevations, size of the apron, rooms, etc.

**VOTE: Wally Holt moved to adjourn at 7:20pm and meet at the Lyndeborough Fire Station for a tour. Mark Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

The Committee toured the Lyndeborough Fire Station from 7:25pm – 8:40pm and had the opportunity to ask questions to Chief McQuade, Firefighter Tim McEntee and Firefighter Rich Velliux about their day to day operations and learned more about the facility and their needs.

The height of doors to the fire station will not allow for a standard size truck to fit. A custom pumper truck cost and estimated \$350,000 while a standard pumper can run \$250,000-\$300,000.

Chief McQuade reviewed the different scenarios of equipment needed on the scene. They need two class A pumpers, a rescue truck and tanker. The two engines can be the first on the scene and can carry

1,000 gallons and a crew of six. The tanker can carry 2,600 gallons and the pumper 1,250-1,500 and it takes 3-5 minutes to refill which is fast. There is no hydrant system.

Mutual aid is used. One truck will have the primary purpose to find water in a pond, stream or pool. If there is a fire in the Village, water can be transported from the Pinnacle Mountain Fish & Game Club, the river or Pettingill Hill Road. The truck can fill in five minutes for a 2000 gallon tanker. When filling trucks, they have to be filled quickly and get back to the fire. Multiple sites can be used.

The objective is the size of the tanker to shuttle water. Mr. McEntee stated they can fight a lot of fire with a 500 gallon truck and mutual aid. This equipment can accommodate a "room and stuff" fire. The initial response to a working fire if all trucks respond can bring in the neighborhood of 10,000 gallons with a 250 psi flow rate.

One problem in Lyndeborough is the long driveways. The department has 1,500 feet of large diameter hose.

Mr. Holland asked about dry hydrants. The response was the hydrant has to be in a reasonable spot. It requires to work with DES, the homeowners for permission and the Lyndeborough DPW can install it.

Some portions of Mountain Road are challenging with water shuttles and keeping the road closed. "It can be white knuckle", said Chief McQuade.

A mile of 4 inch is another magnitude.

Chief McQuade explained some of the problems start right in the station. There is limited parking at the station. The library lot can be used and 3-4 cars can be parked at the Horn residence across the street. Firefighters are crossing the road in dark conditions late at night due to poor lighting.

In the late 1990s ceiling gas units were installed. The rear ends of the truck are in the building when the front of the truck is entering the road. There is about 3 feet between the end of the truck and the gear racks. When the firefighters are getting into their gear they are doing it behind the trucks breathing in the fumes from the trucks. The station does not have a gear dryer and at times it can take several days to dry. The department members have only one set of gear but in a perfect world two gear sets are ideal.

The department can have 3-4 calls per day or go a week without a call.

Last summer the septic tank was replaced and a 1,250 gallon tank installed. There is no leach field and there is ledge in the area. The building has water issues and put drains in.

In 2006, All the windows on both floors were replaced which was a big savings on the heating bill. The building has baseboard heating on first level. There is no heat upstairs but electric space heaters are used.

A meeting and training room for police and fire department would be useful but at the time the Chief said they don't need a bunk room.

The roof line is identical. There are problems with the roof. A new roof is needed in the future. Icicles form on the front side and on the right side in the old wing, water was a problem in the back corner. The drains would fill 2-3 inches.

The roof can be jacked up but the problem of limited parking and no apron in front will still exist. A location in the center was discussed; an engine and truck could be kept in the Village. All that would be needed is a restroom, sink, toilet, small closet and storage. No shower is needed. The water is supplied by Citizens' Hall. Water sometimes freezes during very cold weather.

A dehumidifier is used. There were mold issues in the past.

There is a compressor to fill the tanks.

IM Responder is a system that notifies the department members of calls. Alerts are sent via cell phones. Department members can text they are responding. A list is shown on a screen that also includes the member's qualifications. Everyone can see the message. Chief McQuade can do inventory, out-of-service and in-service notification. The horn that was used to notify members has been temporarily shut off. Some days only a few members can respond while others more are available. Rick McQuade said they are lucky to have two fire department members who also work on the highway department.

Chief McQuade said, "We are fond of the building. We have been working on it for 40-years. Some aspects of the building are not up to code.

The problem of homeowners insurance for some homeowners on Mountain Road was discussed. Mr. Rogers suggested documenting situations. Some companies have a problem if outside of five miles from the station. The Center has existing septic and water. The field behind Center Hall is an option but it's in a historic district.

The Committee will tour the highway garage and emergency garage in the future.

A little history: in 1972 Mrs. Little and Chief Ed Abbot together bought a new Ward Engine truck for the town, and the town constructed the addition to the fire station to house it.

Many conversations were taking place during the tour so not all conversations were recorded.

The Committee will meet the second Thursday of the month. August 13, 2015 is next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Humphreys