

Fire dept./Planning Board Joint meeting minutes of 10/19/2016. Meeting to order 7:00 pm

Attendees: Brian Moser, Jim Crandall, Bob Williams, Jed and Nan Schwartz, Shawn Atkins, Lollie Gilbert, Jean Kluk, Marianne Thayer, Kim Cilley, Paul Dulac, Bob Hofstetter, Andrew Hatch, Laurie Carter, Bob Wright

WFD meeting minutes for Oct 17, 2016 were passed around.

Brian – Have held some meetings since last meeting. Would like to get PB to change mind. Revisit and answer questions.

Jim – give plan to Selectmen? **Brian** – yes. Not happy with last meeting and the given options.

Jim – PB feels the center station should be used.

Jean – Questions the cost saving on the WFD presentation. **Jed** – will save with the building that WFD/Rescue first presented. Does not want to use the present building.

Shawn – Frustrated about what the PB presented. **Bob Williams** said that PB and SM did not support (as of last Monday's meeting) a new plan from the WFD and would not support a new plan for the 2017 town meeting – unlikely that alternatives will be looked at for March. **Jim** – can't WFD live w/barn only? **Jean** – the plans the PB has come out with are purely conceptual – not locked in stone. WFD did not see that.

Jed and Shawn – want the voters to choose. **Jim** – that would be up to the SM. **Laurie** – that should be up to the town.

Shawn – with recent town tragedy, the Fire and Rescue people had to be co-located to get their jobs done properly. Does not agree with the separation of WFD and Rescue. Very insistent on this point. Talked about all the plan iterations WFD has gone through. Doesn't think PB can see what is really needed. Is willing to take off the back doors to cut cost – that's a safety factor since all the vehicles would have to be backed in. This will cut the cost of site work. **Jed** – feel strongly about the admin wing being where it would be on the PB plan. Feels that many of the jobs would be done by town experts. **Shawn** – discussed exterior wall and ceilings construction. **Jim** discussed who can do the future work on the structure by local contractors. **Bob Williams** agreed that number can be reduced by not using BPS. **Bob, Jed and Shawn** discussed this. **Bob Williams** – BPS can rough out and town can do the rest – with ability and dollars. Would reduce the final number.

Jean – question – if DECON and Bathroom are in barn what happens. **Shawn** – shrinking barn and putting DECON and bath in barn, that a lot more loss of floor footage. **Bob Williams** – if this building is used as admin space, then DECON and bath could be in barn. Doesn't think that's what WFD/Rescue wants right now.

Jean – what are the numbers being thrown around? **Jed/Shawn** – about \$150-200k would be saved, but these numbers have to be looked at. If WFD plan is accepted, we'll look more closely at figures. **Bob** – the savings thrown around are probably what's needed to finish a shell.

Jed – WFD/Rescue doesn't feel good about going another year without a barn. Would rather lose the doors than lose the admin wing.

Paul – thinks that the “elephant in the room” is this building. Will town accept losing the center station. Want to support WFD plan but ... Talked about his own experience as a school administrator. Does not think leaving this building open will fly with the town. Thinks town people will be uncomfortable with losing this building – questions will be asked as to whether or not we want to use the center station as a storage building only. Can we use this building?

Shawn – Empty building? People or trucks? **Paul** – doesn't have an answer. **Shawn** – Page 4 on the WFD handout shows what this building could be used for. Welfare to this building? **Jed** – this is up to the PB to decide what the center station would be used for.

Jim – This would turn a building into an expensive shed. Bob Williams agrees.

Bob Williams – People are not telling WFD what to do. SM (**Bob Williams**) – doesn't get the cost/benefit advantage. Hoped that wants and needs would be the discussion. Thinks \$400k less would be acceptable.

Jed and Bob Williams had a discussion – both said neither should “dig in.” **Jed** – we're looking at a 20-30 year building. **Paul** – the politics and legal facts of getting a warrant article concern the selectmen and PB as well as the WFD/Rescue agreeing. Both the SM and PB have issues. **Brian** – 2 years ago the SM were interested in our plan but no longer. **Paul** would like to see all come together. **Laurie** – this will be a town building and we should get what WFD/Rescue needs. Said that this building is an eyesore and can't be used for meetings. **Kim and Lollie agreed.** Paul – can be put in front of the townspeople and discussed with them.

Brian – looking for the PB getting on board with us on this option and then present it to the SM. Including the Town Hall. **Jim** – PB voted against the shell at their last meeting. **Paul** – was there a vote? **Nan** – yes. **Nan** – Ed decided the old town highway department garage should be cleaned out so PW could use that building. **Shawn** – why does WFD have to be in the old building/admin. Why can't another town group be in this building.

Lollie – would emergency operation be conducted out of this building or the new admin space? No.

Jed – would like to have a “grand collaboration.” Look at all safety services needs. Many people have participated in future plans. Costs had been calculated. Now the problem is dealing with other spaces in town – in particular the police. Most new safety complexes all over the country keep their safety services together. We'd hope that the PB would look closely at the big picture and come up with a pragmatic approach. Doesn't feel that most people know about this present building. Believes that a few individuals can't get behind this project and that is passed on to the voters.

Bob Wright – why build a building you can't add on to. Design initially so that shell can be put up and added to. If the town moves TH spaces to camp Morgan, where can we hold all our other meetings? They could be moved into the present center station with the least amount of disruption. Major remodel on this building would need updating for code. (**Bob Williams** had dismissed the code problem earlier).

Suggested uses for old building – can everything fit? Everything in old highway garage would have to move into this building – enough room? Perhaps.

Jim – If barn only concept is sold to SM and voters – what take 2/3 now and 1/3 later? **Shawn** – not financially responsible to do that. **Jim** – inflation may upset the cost savings. **Bob Wright.** – we lose to inflation every year. **Paul** – we all thought we'd be working together, but that fell apart. Nothing, however, changed the fact that we should go in '17 vs. an out year. **Shawn** – fairly sure the SM want their plans used and not what is really needed. The towns' people are frustrated, especially with how the SM are conducting business.

Discussion on Tall Hall project and Safety Center project: Can't be against each other. Sitting with nothing but compromised projects. **Bob Wright** – both projects have to come together in one article and get over the pettiness. Must work together as a team. **Marianne** – both the permanent residents and summer people are affected.

Jean – nothing on the plans has an exercise room. Move exercise equipment down and police here (current center station)? Everything comes with a price tag. **Shawn** – Historical Society could come here. 3-4 year plan for this building should be made so people can see.

Andrew – what will happen to the police cruiser? Old highway garage.

Brian – need place for PD in future. **Shawn** – discussed present safety of the PD officers with what's happening to PD elsewhere.

Jim – feels PB should regroup. Nods of agreement from PB members present.

Jed – feels that if a petition article is needed, than PB should lead that. **Bob Wright** – only with backing of PB would a petition article have a chance. **Paul** – thinks a combined petition would be supported. Not sure where the PB is right now which doesn't include the police.

Jean – letter drove the total for SC and TH at \$3M. That was a comfort level. **Jed** – that \$3M ceiling was stuck on the taxes. **Shawn** – big concern is this building. **Paul** – not sure if all members of PB agree. Lots of discussion followed on different options on savings, starting time for both projects, inflation, movements of town offices and PD etc. No solutions.

Paul – costs. Most recent \$1.77M. \$1.59M is today's number. No factor for inflation. **Jed** – none of these numbers have been fully scrutinized. **Jed** – the \$3M ceiling is not realistic at this point.

Shawn – believes the town is so frustrated with the present BOS, that they would support a joint warrant.

Andrew – lots of double talk from the SM.

Bob Wright - \$3.5 warrant for plan B on both projects might get approval. TH supports plan C but not if Safety center goes to plan B – the plan B with doors at both ends. Need to get an agreement of TH, SC and BOS to move forward. Needs 25 signees for petition article.

Participants showed signs of tiring.

Meeting adjourned at 20:50