

Fire Department Advisory Committee

Minutes April 9, 2019

Meeting convened 7:00 pm

Present: Tom Finnegan, Harry Nelson, Wes Staples, Bob Bartlett, Scott Talbot, Jason Bafundi, Randall Walter, Graham Gitchell.

Minutes of March 21, 2019, meeting were read and accepted.

A floor plan incorporating Wes's and Graham's ideas was presented for discussion. Randall explained that what was presented is more of a diagram of what was wanted and where it would best be located. It is a concept plan, but does not address several issues such as land contours, the shape of the building, etc. From an architectural design, issues of heating, plumbing, drainage, mechanical and electrical features should be covered. Details regarding the floor plan were evaluated and questioned, i.e. is the 60 x 120 still viable? Can some things be moved elsewhere? Should the sprinkler room be separate? Should it have direct access for inspection? Generally speaking, it is a programmatic diagram or conceptual layout. The committee was encouraged to make it a team-building venture by getting more input from non-committee department members and show it to several others to get more input of ideas which may currently be being missed.

It was advised that saying a building has been "built to code" actually says that it meets the absolute lowest acceptable level of construction. Also, while a fire sprinkler system can sometimes be waived, having one can lower the cost on some building materials.

The writing of the Request for Proposal raised many questions. What does the committee plan to bring to the 2020 town meeting? The designer will need to coordinate and collaborate with the committee, there will be a start by and complete by guideline, it will be a requirement that there be several meetings along the process and that at the end of the proposal the committee will receive a color representation to be used at town meeting, and a cost projection with justification based on preliminary pricing. Also, the question was raised as to whether the RFP would go out to just architects and/or design build contractors also? The conclusion was - the more eyes and expertise the better.

A template of the RFP used in 2018 or the sample RFP from the town of Brunswick, ME, will be sent to committee members for their input. These responses will then be discussed at the next meeting when the RFP for the design work will be completed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm. Respectfully submitted, Rachel Bartlett