Williamsburg Public Safety Complex Committee

July 23, 2014

Called to order at 6:35 PM by Chair Bill Sayre.

Present: Bill Sayre, Jason Connell, Daryl Springman, Dick Kisloski, Peter Mahieu, Dan Banister, Denise Banister, Louis Hasbrouk. Absent: Don Lawton, Jeff Ciuffreda, and Denise Wickland. Also present from the Building Repurposing Committee Paul Dunphy and Michael LaMothe.

Jason Connell moved to accept the minutes of June 25, 2014, meeting as amended; Daryl Springman seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Bill Sayre presented a letter from Jeff Ciuffreda of the Building Repurposing Committee outlining that committee’s concerns about siting the safety complex on the James School lot. Paul Dunphy spoke for the Repurposing Committee. They have met with housing experts who feel the James School is much more marketable for housing or retail use than the Town Office building. So the Public Safety Complex Committee discussed whether we need to include in the feasibility study the impact on the James School of locating the complex on that site. The general consensus is that our feasibility study needs to focus mainly on the needs regarding the size of the building for the functions it would serve and to rate the potential sites on how well the building would fit on the potential sites.

Dick Kisloski presented a new idea to think about: Build a fire station at the Highway Garage – move the Police Department temporarily to the James School while we demo the Haydenville Police and Fire Station, and to build a new Police Station on that site. It was pointed out that the Town Garage site is closer to the wetlands than the James School site. It was also noted that during a high water event (similar to Hurricane Irene), the two bridges leading to the Police Station site need to be closely monitored, and could possibly need to be closed. So it was agreed to include in the feasibility study a discussion on the South Main Street site; and a discussion about having one building or two – including the financial impact of having two separate buildings.

Other matters discussed were building a Police Department facility on the Town Office site; also Louis noted that contamination on the National Grid site will probably not be as difficult to abate as we first discussed.

We agreed to include the following in the Request for Qualifications:

* Determine Needs
* Feasibility of one or two buildings
* Refurbish existing buildings or move to new location
* Evaluate access to current properties during high water events.
* Evaluate all potential sites and rank them
* Cost
* Designer is eligible to apply for the design phase.

At the next meeting, to be held on Wednesday, August 27, 2014, we anticipate having a new Request for Qualifications typed up.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Denise L. Banister