Williamsburg Public Safety Complex Committee

December 14, 2016

Called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairman, Bill Sayre. Present: Bill Sayre, Louis Hasbrouk, Dick Kisloski, Dan Banister, Mike Wayne, Jason Connell, Daryl Springman, and Denise Banister. Absent: Don Lawton, Denise Wickland. There were no adjustments to the agenda. The minutes of June 8, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously as written.

Bill handed out the Report of the Williamsburg Town Facilities and Services Survey conducted by Healthy Hampshire and which about 25% of the registered voters filled out. He called the committee members’ attention to some of the responses which pertain to our work. We discussed where the current situation stands after discussing the survey. Bill stated that the Facilities Master Plan committee is working with the Healthy Hampshire survey. The members of the Master Plan Committee has noted that there are a lot of competing uses for the James School lot, and that the town does not have a definitive plan for what to do with the James School at the present time. Members of the Facilities Master Plan Committee feel that the Public Safety Complex is the #1 priority for the town, but they are not sure if it should be sited on the James School lot. Dick Kisloski questioned if there is a timetable to resolve this issue.

Members of the Public Safety Complex Committee know that we have done a lot of work regarding the site; however it seems that others in town do not understand the problems with finding a site and therefore we do not have them behind the outcomes of our work. So, in order to get the 2/3 buy-in to proceed, we need to answer questions and justify our conclusions. Louis Hasbrouk stated that it all boils down to two questions: #1 – Where to site the complex; and #2 – What should it look like. And so it seems that the process to earn the buy-in is to get the Facilities Master Plan Report, answer the questions that the report brings up, and then present to the town. Bill feels that the Facilities Master Plan Study will say that if we have looked at all the other sites listed (and consequently listed reasons that the sites are not suitable), then the James School lot will be “the” site. Daryl suggests holding off until we see the Facilities Master Plan Report and look at it with “new eyes”. Our next step will then be to get the money appropriated for design fees so we can get a better idea of the costs.

We then discussed the need for a bare minimum list of rooms needed by the Police and Fire Departments so the minimum size of the complex can be determined; and also justify those space needs.

The USDA loan program is still on the table. It does, however, require that the town spends down its reserves (Free Cash and Stabilization) to 25%.

Our next action is to wait for the Facilities Master Plan report and to read it.

Next meeting is set for Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at 6:30 PM. Daryl Springman moved, and Louis Hasbrouk seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise L Banister