



Williamsburg Public Safety Building Committee
141 Main Street, P.O. Box 447
Haydenville, Massachusetts 01039-0447
Phone: 413-268-8418 Fax: 413-268-8409
townadmin@burgy.org

Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2021
via Zoom

Members present – Jim Ayres; Amy Bisbee; Dan Bonham; Jason Connell, Fire Chief; Dave Mathers; Jean O’Neil; William Sayre; Denise Wickland, Chief of Police.

Members absent – Mary Dudek; Robert Reinke, Police Officer; Daryl Springman, Deputy Fire Chief.

Associated participants present– Kevin Chrobak, Juster Pope Frazier Architects; Dick Gukowski, Energy Committee.

Members of the public present – Ellen Doyle, Phoebe Shaw.

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

Updates:

- Mr. Chrobak reported that 33 pages of plans were sent to the estimators that cover walls, roof assemblies and infrastructure, including structural fill analysis and schedules for plumbing, HVAC, electrical, and mechanical. Costs have risen dramatically, and it is essential to get a sense of what to expect. Estimates should be back in two weeks, and will be based on the expected four month inflation.
- Variables were included for cost comparisons, many based on recommendations made by the Energy Committee.
 - Floor plans with an alternate for the second floor mezzanine. Floor framing may just be added to allow for future expansion.
 - Asphalt vs. steel roofing.
 - Alternate wall insulation types.
 - Painted cement fiber siding vs. SIPS panels.
 - Variable Refrigerated Flow, (VRF) and Energy Recovery Ventilator (ERV)
- Window heights were reduced to allow for lower ceilings., with horizontal panels in between where a 2nd level floor would go. If a mezzanine does get added, the windows are still high enough to bring in light to that second level.

- Berkshire Design is close to submitting site plans to the Conservation Commission and DEP. Mr. Chrobak had asked them to wait to submit until costs for demolition were in, in case some changes need to be made.
- The preliminary test for PCBs in the Helen E. James window caulk is being done soon. It was discovered that the majority of caulk containing PCBs was manufactured between the years 1958 and 1973?. There is hope that since the building was built before then, the caulk test will come back negative.

Mr. Sayre asked for a written response to to Mr. Guzowski's suggestion for increasing energy efficiency. Mr. Mathers reiterated that those suggestions cannot be integrated until cost estimates are available. Mr. Ayres agreed that a response to the Energy Committee would be good, acknowledging good ideas, what's been incorporated and what is likely not to be, and why. Mr. Bonham stated that the energy codes are stricter than they were five years ago, and many requirements for efficiency are built into the codes. He would like a blow test to be performed on the building after construction to check for air tightness. Mr Chrobak replied that efficiency may increase short term costs but reduce long term costs, but we have to follow the budget, though Mr. Guzowski feels that not all changes will add costs.

There is a sense that people don't want metal siding.

Review of Minutes: Minutes from August 18 were accepted with corrections and additions.

Charge to Public Safety Complex Committee, Williamsburg, MA, 2021

The 11-member committee of residents is charged to work with the Owners' Project Management firm and architect to develop plans for construction of a new Public Safety Complex on the site of the Helen E. James School building. The Committee will represent the citizens of Williamsburg in constructing an efficient and effective facility to serve the community for years to come.

Community Outreach:

The people working on community outreach are a working group, not a sub-committee and not subject to open meeting laws. Mr. Sayre worked with the Town Administrator on creating a webpage to add to the town website.

Berkshire Design will work directly with the Conservation Commission, the tree warden, and the Greenway Committee. It would be beneficial to have liaisons with these groups as well as with the Open Space, Energy, and Helen E. James Committees. The next step is to define the role of a liaison and to find people who are interested in

that role.

Ms. O'Neil suggested having an informational public forum focusing on the positive moves being made. Others agreed with that idea, and Rob Todisco would be involved. She also would like to see the updated, preferred schematic to appear on the upper right corner of the newsletter.

Mr. Bonham suggested adding something about energy efficiency, but keep it general until cost estimates are in and materials are narrowed down.

Ms. Bisbee stated that the public could weigh in on some aesthetics such as glass doors vs. solid insulated doors. She would like a timeline with a framework for when things will happen and how long each phase will take. She is getting a list of abutters, who will be contacted to solicit questions and concerns, as well as to inform them of the timing of activities on the site. Ms. Shaw told the committee that neighbors are concerned about the abatement of the old school. Mr. Sayre replied that there are very stringent requirements for dust control and other safety measures.

Next meeting: The committee will meet again in two weeks, on September 8.

Documents used:

- PSC Motion on Community Outreach which establishes a process for community outreach.
- A memo to the Committee from Richard Guzowski expressing concerns about Energy Conservation measures for the new Safety Complex.
- Minutes

Meeting was adjourned at 7:09.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda McCall