Williamsburg Public Safety Complex Committee

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Called to order by chair, Bill Sayre, at 6:35 PM. Present: Bill Sayre, Denise Banister, Dan Banister, Louis Hasbrouk, Daryl Springman, Dick Kisloski, Denise Wickland, Jason Connell, and Peter Mahieu. Also present: Cadence Cayo and John Pohanka Absent: Don Lawton and Mike Wayne.

Bill Sayre distributed copies of the Final Feasibility Studies Report dated November 18, 2015. Dick Kisloski moved and Denise Wickland seconded to approve the minutes of November 18, 2015 as amended. Motion passed unanimously. The committee members present discussed the draft of the final report of the public safety complex committee to the board of selectmen. Bill Sayre noted that on page two of the report a series of “X”’s were used instead of a dollar figure for the amount of reserves the town has available to offset borrowing, as town meeting action on December 7, 2015, could possibly change the figure. Dan Banister moved and Jason Connell seconded to approve the final report to the selectmen. During discussion, it was noted that Anwar stated he is willing to help out with presentation of the project to the townspeople.

The members of the committee thanked Bill for his work.

The National Grid lot was discussed as a potential site for the complex. It was noted that: 1) it is not available; and 2) there is not enough water pressure. Bill asked Anwar for a ballpark price for an underground storage tank for water for a sprinkler system. Anwar estimated the cost at around $180,000.00. Dick felt that if we had to buy the lot and pay $180,000 for storage tank(s), the cost of the project would become too high.

Louis feel that the James School site is ideal; that the building would add to the center of the town, and that since the Pharmacy is located at the geographical center of town, the James School is very close to the geographical center. Peter Mahieu feel there might be some push back from citizen in Haydenville if the complex is located at the James School.

Next actions: Bill want to present the final report to the selectboard on December10, and would like as many committee members present as possible. Denise Wickland and Jason Connell will be there at 7:00 PM.

Presentation to townspeople should then follow, with the goal of getting ready to go to town meeting with options and a request for funds for a bid package. Louis questioned how much cooperation we can count on from the repurposing committee. John Pohanka suggests we equate the costs to the rise in the tax rate.

Louis cautioned that every year the James School building deteriorates more and become more expensive. John Pohanka feels that the James School is the town’s biggest asset. The change of use of the James School will trigger the need to sprinkler. John feels that the cost estimates for fixing the James School envelope are inflated, although windows are very expensive and there are many windows in the building.

Jason Connell suggested that the CDC was highly involved with public safety complex projects in Cummington and Plainfield, and wonders if we can get help from them. All agreed that we should pursue that, even if we just get help with a grant. Bill will ask Charlene to pursue.

It was questioned when the reuse committee report will be delivered. Jeff Ciuffreda, the chair of that committee wants to submit their report to the Town Administrator on December 10.

At 7:30 Dan Banister moved and Dick Kisloski seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Banister