

TOWN OF AVON
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2014

TOWN OF AVON
2014 AUG -6 AM 9:00

TOWN CLERK

In Attendance:

Tracy Self, Chairman
Elaine Dombrosky
Tim Flanigan
Carl Fischer
Jason Suzor

Absent:

Glenn Fernald
Alex Sinclair
Marie Drottar
Kevin Foster

The Avon Public Safety Building Committee met at Town Hall on Tuesday evening, March 18, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.

Tracy Self commenced the meeting and said the first item on the agenda was to approve the Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2013; December 3, 2013 and February 4, 2014. Tracy asked if anyone had any comments on any of these Minutes and no one had. She then asked for someone to make a motion to approve the Minutes. Jason Suzor made the motion to accept the Minutes as read with Carl Fischer seconding the motion. They were unanimously approved.

The next item on the agenda was to update Tracy on the February 4th meeting they had as she was absent that night. Elaine Dombrosky began by explaining what they had discussed. Tracy then told the Committee the Special Town Meeting Warrant was asking for \$300,000 to add to the Stabilization Account and \$100,000 in the Operating Account. She told them if this passed at STM, they would not have to put their article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Carl Fischer mentioned that \$90,000 or so had been approved for new windows at the existing Fire and Police Station. The Committee then discussed the logistics of this information.

Jason Suzor said he had heard there was talk of people wanting to separate the Fire and Police. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of this.

Tracy then brought up having an Open Forum to inform the town as to what they are doing, and to get their support for the Public Safety Building. She mentioned they should have the design in place before having the Open Forum – stating to the townspeople that this is what they are looking to build.

Carl then commented that the Fire Department was concerned about the reduction of the apparatus bay. He said the fire vehicles are now larger and longer and there was a great deal of concern about giving them the appropriate space. A discussion followed. He also said they would prefer to keep the footage for a training room as opposed to a firing range. They need it for meetings, etc., and said a training room would have more usage. He said it has to be very

versatile and a room 50' x 50' should be big enough for the functions they would like to have in it.

The next item discussed was where would you put the Fire and Police while a new building was being constructed on the existing location. The Crowley School location was a possibility and the Committee discussed what they would need for relocation purposes and the costs involved.

Elaine then spoke about getting actual numbers for relocating them. They should start the process and begin to put numbers together so they will have at least an idea as to what would be the cost for these services.

The next subject which was brought up was Jeff McElravy's fees. Jeff is the architect and will be designing the new building. Tracy said that it had cost them \$2,800 for Jeff to come up from Connecticut to meet with them. She said it would be \$7,200 for him to do a floor plan design; \$1,000 for him to figure out the actual cost; and \$5,000 for each additional concept.

The next subject brought up was what you would do with the Crowley location once you move the Fire and Police out – that is, if you use that location for relocation purposes. A suggestion was to put the DPW in there. A discussion ensued regarding this idea.

Carl then brought up the fact that they have a \$25,000 phone system. The Committee discussed all of the monies being put into the existing location right now.

Tim Flanigan then asked when should they have Jeff back. Tracy said every time they have him come here it's going to cost them \$1,000.

Once again the demolition of the existing building was brought up and they discussed what they thought the cost might be to do this. Will the cost of demolition be factored in to the design expense? They need to start looking into all of these things.

The Committee then talked about monies and Carl explained to them what "free cash" meant. He said it was monies returned back to the town by each department that didn't get spent.

Tracy said right now they need to wait for the Special Town Meeting before they can begin. Elaine then suggested they should invite both the Fire and Police to their next meeting, not only to inform them of what they are planning, but to get their support.

Next, the subject of bonds came up. The Committee had a discussion about the town bonds, stating that some have been paid up, as well as what outstanding ones are left. Tracy said she would email Jean Kopke and asked her about them.

In conclusion, Tracy said this is the "Plan." They first need to go to Special Town Meeting and see if they have any money and then invite both the Fire and Police Departments to their next meeting to communicate to them and to get their input before Jeff begins his design.

When there were no more items on the agenda, Tracy adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.