

**TOWN OF AVON**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING COMMITTEE**  
**JANUARY 6, 2015**

TOWN OF AVON  
2018 MAR 26 A 8:23  
TOWN CLERK

**In Attendance:**

Tracy Self, Chairman  
Elaine Dombrosky  
Tim Flanigan  
Alex Sinclair  
Jason Suzor  
Carl Fischer  
Kevin Foster  
Glenn Fernald

Fire Chief Spurr  
Police Chief Martineau  
Frank Crimmins, Town Administrator  
Frank Staffier, Town Moderator  
Bruce Lane  
Jeff McElravy, Tecton Architects, Inc.

**Absent:**

Marie Drottar

The Avon Public Safety Building Committee met at Town Hall on Tuesday evening, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting was for the Committee, along with the Police Chief, the Fire Chief, and the Town Administrator, to meet with Jeff McElravy from Tecton Architects, Inc. Jeff was asked by the Committee to do some conceptual designs and renderings showing one Public Safety Building; one separate Fire building; and one separate Police building and bring them with him to the meeting.

Tracy commenced the meeting and immediately turned it over to Jeff to explain the designs that he brought. The first conceptual design he showed was the new Police Department, which would be built down at the site of the old Crowley School. The design was in color and the Committee liked it as it would fit in nicely with their concept of what the building should look like for the Town of Avon. Jeff brought the square footage down to 8,500 sq. ft. Jeff said it was designed that when you drive down the winding road you would be able to see the front of the building. He then went through the design explaining the floor plan. After finishing he brought up the 10,000 sq. ft. plan, which he had showed to the Committee back in July.

At this time Frank Staffier asked the Committee if he could speak. He wanted to give his opinion of where to put the Public Safety Building. He said it would be great to have both departments in one location. He thought the Town should use land they already own and DeMarco Park was where he thought it should be built. The property was 27 acres. He mentioned that it was an alternative for the Committee to look at. If it was built there, then the existing location could be sold and that money could help pay for the new building.

Police Chief Martineau spoke next. He thought they needed to keep the costs down so you could "sell it" to the Town. He said he liked the design for the 8,500 sq. ft. building and he stated he did not really need a 10,000 sq. ft. building.

Next, Jason Suzor spoke about what the Committee has been doing for the past year and a half. He said they had discussed, in detail, one building vs. two buildings. It is one thing to look at the Space Needs Assessments Jeff had given them, but to actually see the design and floor plan was what they really needed to see.

After Jason, Frank Crimmins spoke next. He said he disagreed with the Moderator, and due to its inadequacies, the Police Station should get shut down. So, with that being said, he thought the best plan was to move forward. They need to get going on this project as the Police need this building now. He did mention that they had \$900,000 in the Stabilization Fund for a Public Safety building.

Jeff then spoke about DeMarco Park. He remembers when this location came up before and he said there was only one access to the building and you needed to have two. That was one of the problems they had with this location. Jeff then showed the Committee the conceptual design for the Fire Department, which was to be a renovation of the existing location. With this design he said he wanted to find a solution for them so they wouldn't need to have a temporary structure while the building was being renovated. They could demolish the Police Department and work on the right side of the building while the Fire Department could stay on their side until the Police side was completed. Jeff went through the design of this building with the Committee. The square footage of the Fire Department would be around 14,000 sq. ft. He said all of their money would go into new construction and not for relocation. Chief Spurr said he liked the concept, but it would definitely have to be tweaked.

At this time Jeff put up 3 conceptual designs for a Public Safety Building, which was to be built on the existing location. It was pretty much a one story building and he said he tried to address all areas needed and required. In this design he said he needed to take over the gazebo area. The Committee said that wouldn't be a problem as they could put the gazebo up at DeMarco Park, where there would be more parking anyways. He then spent the next few minutes going through each room and what it was designed for. The total square footage of this facility would be around 21,725 sq. ft. If they were to go with this design then they would need temporary housing. You would now have to factor in relocation costs with a time factor of 14 months or so.

After having gone through all of the conceptual designs and renderings Jeff summarized the square footage and costs. He said a standalone Police Department would be approximately 8,500 square feet with a cost of \$4.6 million. If they did a 10,000 square foot building, it would be roughly \$5.3 million. A standalone Fire Department would be approximately 14,000 square feet with a cost of \$3.8 to \$4.0 million. For a single building, housing both the Fire and Police, it

would be roughly 27,725 square feet with a project cost of \$11.2 million and that does not include the relocation costs.

The Committee discussed all of this, and thought that having two separate buildings would be going in the right direction, after having seen all of the conceptual designs and renderings.

When Jeff concluded his presentation Tracy mentioned to the Committee that they need to write up the Article to present to the Board of Selectmen for Thursday and that it had to be worded to include both proposed buildings. Frank Crimmins mentioned that this was a debt exclusion. He had some information with him, which he read to the Committee regarding a 30 year amortization schedule; a 25 year and a 20 year schedule. Tracy said the townspeople would want to know how it was going to affect them. What would be their cost? One number thrown out was \$250 per household. Frank said that in order to accomplish this task, they would need to get the support of the town behind them.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the Meeting Minutes of August 5<sup>th</sup>, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 21<sup>st</sup>, November 20<sup>th</sup> and November 25<sup>th</sup>. When there were no questions regarding the Minutes, Tracy asked for someone to make a motion to accept them as read. Jason Suzor made the motion to accept them as read with Tim Flanigan seconding that motion. They were approved unanimously.

The last item on the agenda was to vote to move forward with two separate buildings, one for the Fire, and the second for the Police. Tracy made the motion to write up the Article for two buildings and the Committee voted unanimously to do so.

Tracy reminded everyone that they would be meeting with the Board of Selectmen on Thursday evening, January 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.