

TOWN OF AVON
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING COMMITTEE
JANUARY 8, 2015

TOWN OF AVON
2018 MAR 26 A 8:22
TOWN CLERK

In Attendance:

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

Fire Chief Spurr
Police Chief Martineau
Frank Crimmins, Town Administrator
Frank Staffier, Town Moderator
Frank Hegerty, Board of Selectmen
Bob Brady, Board of Selectmen
Bob Borden

Absent:

Marie Drottar
Kevin Foster

The Avon Public Safety Building Committee met with the Board of Selectmen at Town Hall on Thursday evening, January 8th, 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 the Board of Selectmen to show them the conceptual designs and renderings drawn up by Jeff McElravy from Tecton Architects, Inc. The designs showed one Public Safety Building; one separate Fire building; and one separate Police building.

Tracy commenced the meeting by going through each design and explaining them to the Board. The first conceptual design was of the old rendering of the Public Safety Building, which had been done several years ago, at a cost of \$18 million and it had 36,000 sq. ft.

The next rendering/design was of the Police Department, which would be built down at the site of the old Crowley School. She said the entire Committee thought that it would fit in nicely with their concept of what the building should look like for the Town of Avon. With this new Police building the square footage went down to 9,000 sq. ft. with a cost of \$5.5 million. Police Chief Martineau said they needed to keep the costs down so they could "sell it" to the Town. He said he liked the design for the building and stated he did not really need a 10,000 sq. ft. building as they had previously talked about.

Tracy then showed the Committee the conceptual design for the Fire Department, which was to be a renovation of the existing location. With this design 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. Tracy went through the design of this building with the Board. She said the square footage of the Fire Department would be around 14,000 sq. ft. with a cost of \$4.8 million and that all of their money would go into new construction and not for temporary housing. Chief Spurr said he liked the concept, but it would definitely have to be tweaked. So, in total, the costs of the 2 buildings would be just over \$10 million.

The third design(s) shown the Board of Selectmen were for a Public Safety Building, which was to be built on the existing location. It was pretty much a one story building, which addressed all areas. In order to build this building they needed to take over the gazebo area. Tracy briefly went through each area of the building and what it was designed for. The total square footage of this facility would be around 21,725 sq. ft. Tracy said if they were to have gone with this design then they would need temporary housing while it was being built. 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 Tracy summarized the square footage and costs. She said a standalone Police Department would be approximately 9,000 square feet with a cost of \$5.5 million. A standalone Fire Department would be approximately 14,000 square feet with a cost of \$4.8 million. For a single building, housing both the Fire and Police, would be roughly 27,725 square feet with a project cost of \$11.2 million and that does not include relocation costs.

Tracy told the Board that the Committee had discussed all of this, and they thought that having two separate buildings would be going in the right direction after having seen all of the conceptual designs and renderings. Tracy told the Board that the official recommendation of the Committee was to go with 2 separate facilities, and on January 6th, the Committee had voted on it unanimously.

Frank Hegerty spoke next. He said the Board of Selectmen applauds the Public Safety Building Committee for their hard work and dedication to get this project to where it is today. They should now be able to move forward. He said for election purposes the more people who know about this, the better. They need to send something out to the townspeople showing the designs, costs, etc. They need to now "sell it." He said they need a campaign; map it out; go to every door in the town; use the *Money Saver*; talk it up all the time and then get them to come out and vote. Tracy said the townspeople would want to know how it was going to affect them. What would be their cost?

Tracy mentioned to the Board that they need to write up the Article to be worded to include both proposed buildings. Frank said it would be a one ballot question. He said the real issue to the override vote is the ballot. Everyone then discussed when to put this before the town. They talked about the Annual Town Meeting, a Special Town Meeting, maybe the week after Labor Day to have the election, etc. Frank said that in order to accomplish this task, they would need to get the support of the town behind them.

When there were no more questions, Tracy scheduled the next Public Safety Building Committee meeting for Wednesday evening, January 21st, at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.