

Meeting Minutes Fire Department/Ambulance working group.

April 26, 2018 6:00 pm Willey Building.

Mike Hogan , Jack Daniels, Skip Bothfeld, Andy Luce, Jeff Durgin, Dean Deasy, Brad Alexander, Karen Deasy

1. Call meeting to order  
Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm
2. Approve agenda  
Moved by Skip seconded by Jack , Agenda approved
3. Organization of working group / sub committees  
Mike indicated group will follow open meeting laws for transparency, agendas and meeting minutes will be posted on the Town web page, discussion on how to provide information to community seems key as there is a lot of inaccurate information and rumors around town.
4. Assigning tasks  
Skip indicated it's important that we let people know that the town has purchased the property, there are many people that do not know the town now owns the land. A discussion on how to get this information and other facts out in front of rumors is important, Mike informed the group that the board can purchase land without a town vote but cannot sell land without a town vote. SB will work on providing information to update community, committee to review. Selectboard to Coordinate.

It was indicated the Town clerk has been contacted regarding a petition, the content of this is not known. The FD and Town have indicated a willingness to work with the adjacent landowners to minimize impacts.

Jack indicated that the board may consider a vote for funding this fall but that is still up for discussion, it was also mentioned that many grants will require as part of the approval process both a public hearing and a vote to approve use of the funds.

Short term the rec committee has asked if they can use the land for games and practice. They will talk to the FD about burning off the thatch on the field.

Mike has inspected the existing building, he put together an inventory of some of the things that could be removed from the building. (attached) Many of the items may not be salvageable, it was suggested the items be offered for donations to the building fund to the community. Brad will stop in and check the building and will write up the rfp for removal of the existing structure, Perhaps some rocks should be installed to block access to the lot. Ideally if funds can be acquired it would be beneficial to have the structure removed by fall. There is a partial basement under the building that would require infilling. It is expected that the majority of the building will not be salvageable. Andy believes there is an underground fuel tank, this will be confirmed.  
Brad will inspect site next week.

FD will reach out and find other new stations to go visit, it was believed that this was beneficial to planning the Town garage and will be key to finalizing the design for the new facility. Brief discussion on adding additional space to the facility for community events and activities, possibly a shelter and hall and potentially space for law enforcement were ideas discussed. Plan

should be open and explore all possibilities. Skip has a few suggestions of stations to visit and will check for others for group to view.

FD to review

Screening of property lines will be top priority, suggested that we possibly start with plantings along the adjacent lines now. The Town Tree warden is often looking for areas to plant new trees and Friends of the Winooski could also assist with planting of riparian areas.

Karen will investigate.

FD will organize and create a list of facility equipment required for the new station, an inventory of existing equipment should be compiled and assess what will move to the new location.

FD to coordinate.

Anticipate the project timeline is expected to be 4-5 years for completion.

## 5. Setting goals

Discussion on reducing the size of the pond or eliminating it to provide more area, placement of the structure towards the rear of the property were discussed, plans will need to be developed for the existing station site as well. It could provide much needed parking for the village.

There a variety of grants available for community facilities, FEMA, USDA and CDBG funds are some potential project sources, as a multifunction community facility additional funding sources may be available. It is expected that based on funding needs of other recently completed stations we could be looking at 2-3 million in total project costs. Acquiring grants will be important to develop this project.

Short term it was suggested to establish a building fund to receive donations towards the construction. Karen will touch base with Betty to set this up. The FD will be adding a link to their web page to accept donations for the building fund.

After discussion it was decided to focus on 6 areas:

Community relations

Master plan

Site plan

Demolition

Design

Funding

## 6. Target dates

Upcoming opportunities to discuss project and get out information, pancake breakfast in May, next chronicle addition and possibly an article in the Hardwick Gazette.

Next meeting will be held Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm we will meet at the existing fire house for a facility meeting will be at the Willey building directly after.

## 7. Other business

## 8. Adjourn

Motion made Jack 7:04 seconded Jeff unanimous