

Joint Meeting
Public Safety Facilities Task Force
&
Municipal Facilities Committee
Minutes
May 23, 2022, 9:00 am
Nickles Room

Members in attendance: Christine Lear, Jerry Lerman, Bill Risso, Lee Storrs, Ingo Szegvari

Others in attendance: John Fisher (Police Chief), Bryan Sorrows (Fire Chief), Cynthia Sorn (Carlisle Mosquito)

- I. Meeting called to order at 9:03AM

- II. Johnson Roberts Associates Proposal – It was noted that a proposal had been previously received from Johnson Roberts Associates. The proposal provided for a program review. It was noted that the proposal was a good start but there should be some discussions with Stewart Roberts so that they understand the areas where the emphasis of their efforts should be placed. Chief Fisher noted that the police station’s needs had previously been studied and he felt that the emphasis should be on the fire department needs with any remaining money looking at a combined facility. The committee member agreed with this. It was agreed that Christine would reach out to Stewart about attending an upcoming meeting to review the proposal. It was noted that once the program review was completed the needs and various potential options could be discussed

- III. Existing Fire Station Structural Review – Lee Storrs had reviewed the existing Fire Station plans and it did not appear that there was much masonry reinforcing installed when the building was constructed. He felt that this issue and the implications /options for expansion should be reviewed by a structural engineer. The lack of reinforcing could make expansion prohibitive. Chief Sorrows noted that options for addressing this should also be reviewed by the structural engineer including if there was a way to construct an “addition/detached building” immediately adjacent to the existing structure but not trigger the need to bring the existing structure up to newer code. Also, if a new structure was constructed for the fire department could the existing structure be used for another purpose without having to bring it up to current code. Christine spoke to Stewart and he did not believe that structural review would be very costly and he agreed to provide Christine with contact information for the engineer. Chief Sorrows noted that if this review was not very costly it might be possible to fund it under the Fire Department’s budget, but this would have to be investigated further.

- IV. Site Option Discussions – The current and possible future alternate sites were discussed including the following:
 - A. Police Station - It appeared to be very difficult/costly to keep the existing police station in its current locations because the site was so constrained. It was noted that to meet current requirements the building expansion would result in the loss of additional parking which was already very limited. In addition, the entire lower level which is concrete construction would need to be reconfigured and an elevator would need to be added.
 - B. Fire Station – The approach regarding this station will depend upon if the building can be expanded. It was note that possibly the vehicles could be stored in the existing station and operations and/or parking and storage added on the adjacent Conant land. It was noted that if it was just storage and parking on Conant this may be feasible but there are significant drawbacks having operations separated.
 - C. State Land – It was noted that possible the state would allow Carlisle to construct a temporary structure on their land along Lowell Street while the fire station was being renovated or recon-

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structed on the current site. Another option would be to see if the state was willing to do a land swap and then construct one or both the police and or fire department on the state land.

- D. Banta Davis – It was also noted that Banta Davis land may also be an option for a facility. However, other uses have been proposed for this land and it would be necessary to show constructing a facility there would not preclude these future uses or there would need to be community buy in before proceeding very far with this option.
- E. Conant Land – It was noted that it may be possible to expand the fire department on the existing site (towards the back) or Conant land (to the northwest). There were some preliminary investigations of the Conant land when it was proposed as a possible site for community housing. A Phase 1 Status Report regarding the site right off Rockland Road in September 1999. Rockland Road is not currently suited for large vehicles/fire trucks but possibly the existing station site could be expanded to the northwest to take advantage of this area. It was noted that there is a lot of land on the Conant property, but it is restricted by natural features including ledge and wetlands.

V. Public Comments

There were no public comments

VI. Meeting was adjourned at 10:09AM

Submitted by Lee Storrs

Approved: Unanimously approved on July 29, 2022