

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS 2021 Fire Station Building Committee Meeting

Meeting Called By: 2021 FSBC

Date, Time: 02/23/2022, 5:00 PM

Transcribed By: Beth Joslin

Location: Northfield Town Hall
21 Summer St, Northfield

Call to Order

Kevin Cate called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

Attendance

Commissioner Jon Cilley, Kevin Waldron, Call Firefighter Matt Auger, Kevin Cate, Tim Sattler, and Chief Michael Sitar

Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Kevin made a motion to accept the minutes of February 9th as written. Commissioner Cilley seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Correspondence

Lisa Martin

Kevin C stated that Lisa Martin, who had been a member of the 2019 Building Committee, emailed him with interest in joining the committee when she returns to New Hampshire in April. Commissioner Cilley stated that she also had submitted her interest to the Commissioners and that it would likely be discussed at their next meeting.

Old Business

Building Design Conference

Chief Sitar asked if anyone had a chance to review the information regarding the building design conference he had sent. Commissioner Cilley stated he had not. Kevin C said he had. Kevin W asked what the dates were. Chief Sitar replied that it is May 24-26. He stated that it looked that the first two days were important but that the last day could be missed and reviewed the agenda. Discussion ensued regarding benefits of attending. Kevin W stated he would love to go but may have conflict. Kevin W asked what the cost of the conference was. Commissioner Cilley stated that for an attendee \$425 plus flight and hotel. Discussion ensued regarding the costs.

Kevin W asked Commissioner Cilley if he would go. Commissioner Cilley replied that he was available but does not like the idea of using taxpayer money for this purpose, but also sees the pros & cons of attending. Kevin C expressed concern that if they put off choosing a contractor till after conference it is going to add four months onto their timeline and put them behind. He also commented on who goes as some of them may never sit on a building committee again but it may be more beneficial if Derek or Matt go as they have careers in the fire service and can use the information in the future.

Contractor Proposals

Kevin W stated that after looking at the proposals, not a one stood out to him, anyone of them could build a building. He asked if anyone had a company jump to the top for everyone. Scott and Chief Sitar agreed with Kevin W that they were all very similar. Discussion ensued regarding architects and previous plans for stations.

TNFD 2021 Fire Station Building Committee Meeting
02/23/2022

Kevin W asked if the requirements of a fire station is going to price the project out of being approved. Tim commented that it is a valid question. They can talk all day long about making spaces fit and where doors will be located but there are things they cannot control. Discussion regarding making building ADA compliant and areas that could be built to be changed to ADA compliant if need be.

Kevin C commented that many people don't know that Center St station exist let alone know that it is the headquarters. Matt added that many people believe that they are still a volunteer department. Kevin C added that it isn't known that Park Street is just a garage. Discussion ensued regarding the community's misunderstanding of the fire district.

Kevin W commented that the nut they need to crack is the price tag, he does not want a \$7 million project. Kevin C agreed, stating that they need to do like the committee did with the Tilton Police Department. The community was kept informed of the decisions and why, so when they got the total price tag there wasn't sticker shock and the understood why it was that price. They need to communicate effectively throughout this process. Discussion ensued regarding public education.

Tim asked if there was any municipal money available from any of the recent infrastructure bills passed. Chief Sitar replied that there was not money for Fire Departments. Commissioner Cilley asked if there were any grants. Chief Sitar replied that he is looking into one now that is a possibility for a small percentage. Discussion ensued regarding other funding methods including impact fees.

After some discussion the committee decided to ask the Commissioners if they would fund a few members to attend conference.

New Business

Contractor Interviews

Kevin C stated that they have five proposals, do they want to interview all five? Scott replied why not. Commissioner Cilley stated that five didn't seem like too many. Kevin C stated that he asks because it seems that two of them put a lot of time into their presentation while the other three sent more of a generic information packet. He added that its possible those companies may have translated his call for proposal differently from the others.

Commissioner Cilley stated it may take a few nights to get through all the interviews with their questionnaires. Chief Sitar added that there will likely be additional questions that come up following their presentation. Discussion ensued regarding the questioning process and how many they should interview.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

Kevin C adjourned the meeting at 6:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Joslin

Beth Joslin
Office Clerk

Next Meeting Date, Time, Place:

March 9, 2022 at 5:00 PM.
Northfield Town Hall
21 Summer Street, Northfield, NH