

Middlefield Fire House Building Committee
405 Main Street Middlefield CT 06455
 March 23, 2023

Attendance: A=Absent X=Present

Members

Others Present

x	Bruce Villwock	x	Peter Tyc
x	Paul Pizzo	x	Jeff Dicostanzo
x	Alice Malcolm	x	Paul Valvo
x	Ryan Colwell		
x	Kevin Boyle		
x	Howard Weissberg		
x	Steven Tyc		

Call to order

Paul Pizzo, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Approve Agenda

Ryan Colwell made a motion, second by Bruce Villwock, to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

- a. Will approve minutes from past meetings at the next regular meeting

Discussion of options we have to pricing, and any potential changes needed prior to the presentation to the BOS and BOF

Paul Pizzo stated there are two options at this point, both of which do not seem like they will work and that there needs to be another option. He came up with a few architectural sketches that can get the project back into a budget. Ryan Colwell stated they met and came up with some more items they can weed out that would lower the final costs of the two options they currently have. Paul stated his

opinion is that the public still would not accept the final costs even with the deductions Ryan stated they could make. Steven Tyc asked what the number is that Paul felt the public would be more accepting of, and Paul stated the original figure of eight to ten million dollars. Howard Weissberg spoke of the FAQ sheet that was put out regarding what the fire company needed, and he felt that there were not enough specifications given for the items they stated were necessary to convince him that they need the equipment and space; he felt that those specifications are needed. Howard continued to explain that the burden of the cost in a small community is significantly higher and so the argument really needs to be convincing. Steven explained the equipment they need for this community dictates the size of the building that they need for those items. Steven further spoke about the operational side of things; the main issues they have is the amount of storage for equipment and space, the space needed for operations and everything they do, the current building and the deficiencies they have and lastly the cancer prevention that is necessary. Pete Tyc stated they would be negligent if they did not take the cancer prevention into consideration when they remodel their fire department, the appropriate actions and cautions need to be taken. Howard suggested that they explain that as an avoided cost in the future in their presentation. Howard asked if there is an opportunity for shared spaces elsewhere in the town. Pete explained the limited town buildings and the extra space is not available or ideal. Pete continued to explain his priority is to have the adequate space for equipment and the adequate safety of the members who volunteer their time. He continued to explain every item they have and the space they are asking for in detail and that they are all justified, they are trying to follow the best practices and they are unable to comply without the space and items. Pete also explained what the expectations are for new members of the fire company, their trucks and equipment they use and specifically for what. Howard suggested an explanation of the equipment and trucks they have, the storage needs for them, and where they are currently stored and whether it is adequate or not. Paul asked everyone to look at the sketches he designed and see if they are sufficient for what they need. Alice Malcolm further explained that they want the firefighters to be protected and have what they need, but then take those needs and make it more affordable. The FBC then gathered around to observe Paul's sketches as he explained them, questions were asked and discussed by all. How to proceed with the sketches and the companies (KBA and Gilbane) the FBC has been working with, and how to present to the BOF and BOS was deliberated over by all.

Schedule Next Meetings for BOS and BOF

They stated the meeting would be held on April 4, 2023. A special meeting would be held on March 29, 2023 to go over the presentation.

Conversation regarding "Soft Costs"

Kevin Boyle stated they needed to know what the soft costs percentage number is. They discussed what those items that are needed might be. They would be worked on before the next meeting.

Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss project financing

The executive session was not needed.

Adjourn

Paul Pizzo made a motion to adjourn at 8:21pm, second by Kevin Boyle. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amity French-Wilson
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