

Public Safety Complex Committee

Zoom meeting-recorded

December 3, 2020 @ 6:30 pm

Present: Steve Holt, Stephan Wurmbrand, Dave White, John Zimmerman, Phil Dowling, Laurie Sanders

Steve Holt called the meeting to order at 6:30.

No minutes were submitted from the previous meetings.

Status of Bidding Process: Holt reported that the plans were posted on 12/3 on the Central register and were available on December 4. Mark Sullivan has already received calls from prospective bidders. Bids are due in early January (1/7: sub-contractors; 1/14: GC), Lowest qualified bidder will be selected and will be asked to hold bid until vote takes place.

Other Costs: Phil will flesh out the list of additional costs and will talk with Bill Jablonski about paving, equipment rental, septic & leach field installation). Site work was previously estimated at \$460K, town will do bulk of this. Steve has list of town activities & other pre-construction work.

Other line items to be tracked down by the committee: IT, security, furniture, ZBA, NOI.

IT: Steve reported that Dave Antosz and Dave White can supply a list of IT needs. Stephan noted it will include modems, switches, back-up power supplies. A general dollar amount + 20% for insurance.

Furniture: Amit will provide.

Demolition \$: Art is helping with spec. Estimated cost based on previous report: \$80-85K

ZBA: Variance application to be submitted December 8.

NOI: Need to fill out application and submit to ConsCom.

Town meeting date: Phil said probably in early February outdoors. It will be a vote; all educational presentations will be done prior. Stephan noted importance of dollar amounts for all costs and to solidify the presentations. Members suggested more educational meetings, distributing list of images. 2/3 majority needed.

Significant elements for Public Presentation: 1) Plans similar to before, but trimmed and all essential; better timing from fiscal perspective (stabilization fund has \$350K; free cash now \$500K); Solar project on Montague Road will generate funds for other capital projects. Dave White mentioned police reform in place as of 12/3, which will require all officers to be certified; and the building with the PD must be certified or accredited for insurance perspectives—so legal issue; If this doesn't pass, the local PD will not be able to operate within 3-4 years due to building. Cannot afford to retrofit building to comply with these new changes; Westhampton is not set up for paying full-time officers so must train part-time & get certified. Have to keep current PT officers in place. Why bring it back? Have to. ; Future changing—have to address.

Steve—if fails, only option is to bring it back next year. Voters must understand that if they want fire, police, and EMS, this must happen and w/o fire department in town, insurance rates for each household will increase.

Educational videos could include:

- 1) Deficits of existing building (OSHA, fire, etc)
- 2) PD Deficiencies
- 3) New building—what are we getting—50 year plan
- 4) Budget/fiscal capital plan
- 5) Legacy: original building in 1945; now it's our turn.

Venues: Information shed?

Bonding: Phil will contact Unibank. He hopes for a comprehensive response & payment schedule.

Next meeting 12/16 at 6:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn by Dave White, seconded by Stephan. The meeting ended at 7:40 pm.

Submitted by Laurie Sanders