

# SELECTMEN'S MEETING

June 12, 2012

Executive Board Attending: Warren Hammack, Chair, David Upton, Maury Collins ,Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others Attending: Maureen Lord, Mike Blaudschun, Susan Hansel, Bert Wingerson, Edith Notman, Linda Cates, Carol Raynor, Tom Tolman, Kris Finnegan, Priscilla Walter and several others not signed in.

Upon a request from Warren a motion to open was made by David and seconded by Maury. Following a unanimous vote the meeting opened at 6:07 PM.

Terry Upton began discussion of the renovation project. She spoke of a new option called plan E which modifies some of the existing plans and seems to cover the safety goals, allows her customers to have chairs at her window and ties the rear exit area into any future plans for renovating the upstairs.

Maury expressed appreciation that so many plans have been given thought and consideration to achieve the goals and reduce costs.

Warren said he must play the role of "Devil's Advocate" and read the concerns from David Drasba over bidding more than one plan for the project. Because the project is relatively small the contractors may not want to do the extra work involved to present multiple bids

Terry stated that she had supported Plan B in the beginning but when concerns arose over seating she worried how this would affect her customers. She explained that often she has elderly customers that would have difficulty standing. She noted that often when seeking assistance from the State the wait can be long, therefore chairs at her window are essential.

Warren said if chairs are an issue they can be used in all plans. He then turned to Rick Lothrop for his input.

Rick read from the Life safety code. He then explained that chairs are not necessarily the issue. The concern is keeping the chairs out of the exit path at all times.

Terry also noted that the posted occupancy limit for the area is 11 people.

Rick said that although the sign states 11 he said it should be 34.

Terry expressed surprise that 34 could be in that space at one time. She was joined by audience members.

Warren stated that the efforts to save money, while noble, do not always offer the best long term benefit. He noted other instances where the Town's choice was to save money on projects and that now has caused regrets. Warren praised the work done by the architects and their effort to best use the space and still meet all goals with full consideration of the safety codes. Warren went on to note that in the new plans the Selectmen's area lacks protection.

Bert asked what protection is provided in Plan B.

Terry asked Rick Lothrop if Plan B would allow for her chairs since she will be much closer to

the entrance in that plan.

Rick indicated this would just mean keeping the chairs very close to the service window to always maintain the path.

David suggested picking a single plan this evening and then move forward with developing just the chosen plan. David felt that \$3000.00 (as was indicated by the architect) to develop a plan that would basically be a "cut and paste" modification did not seem like a reasonable fee. He went on to review several aspects of plan B and said he would rather move forward with Plan C-2. He said that this plan would tie into future renovations but would not cost as much as Plan B.

David continued a review of Plan C-2 and noted that putting the Selectmen's area in the front would still provide for a lockable entry door.

Warren noted that the \$3000.00 would be for the development of the final construction plans. It would not be just a little "cut and paste".

Mike Blaudschun asked what happened to plan A.

Warren noted that at a previous public presentation Plan B had been chosen over Plan A during a straw vote.

Mike noted that the general public is not fully aware of the subsequent plans. Mike also noted the security issues if the Selectmen meet on another night other than when the Town Clerk has open hours.

David indicated that Edie could rearrange her hours to match Terry's open evening and Edie would come in later on the next morning which would not add any extra hours.

Mike Blaudschun suggested another public hearing before moving forward with a plan.

David asked if Maury felt ready to vote on a plan this evening or to wait.

Bert reminded that Plan B would require moving but the other plans might allow for just a short closed period without the cost of a move.

Warren again voiced concern over the Selectmen's meeting area not having enough safety measures.

David indicated that it was hoped that a plan could be chosen this evening so that the final details can begin to move forward.

Warren noted that Plan B has been put out for bids.

Lively discussion continued on all aspects of the plans up for consideration.

Priscilla Walter noted that there have been many public meetings on this matter already.

Warren noted that the funds are available in the Capital Reserve Fund to do the project right the first time.

Maury said he had been in favor of Plan B but now he is in favor of Plan E. He stated that he will want to be sure that all safety doors are installed as with the other plans that can be locked if necessary.

David then moved to have the architect develop a bid package for Plan E . This package to be

completed within 2 weeks. Maury seconded the motion. The motion then carried by a majority vote of 2-1.

Warren stated his opposition and said he would not vote for that plan. He feels it is a waste of money.

In response to opposition from Mike Blaudschun, David said the Board did the best it could to bring this matter before the Town for input on several occasions.

The next matter for discussion was the joining of ideas from the Selectmen, Library Trustees, and the Municipal Records Board on the use of the Library basement.

Discussion included possible ADA access, Short term storage while renovations are going on and future use for storage of the Municipal Records and Archives.

Linda Cates said the Library Trustees would agree to letting the Town Office use the space for storage but the Trustees must have access for their work on the Book Sale that will be coming up.

Details were discussed and it was noted that several people have keys to the area.

Terry noted that anything of concern would not be stored there so that was not a problem.

It was also noted that a dehumidifier is always used in the area and there has not been any major problem.

It was then decided that although it is not ADA accessible that would not matter for the short term storage problem but it would be necessary if Town records were to be stored there or if someone wanted to be a member of the M.R.B.

There was then discussion of the alarm system in the Library. It seems to still be going off within the Library but no one seems to know who is alerted when this happens. It is unclear if this is connected to Mutual Aid or not. Rick Lothrop reviewed how it works in other buildings in town but not the Library. This will need further investigation.

David volunteered to sort out this problem with the alarm system.

Linda also noted that the Library Trustees do not have a key to the door in the hall between the Town Hall and the Library which is also the handicap access for the Library.

The Board agreed to get them a key.

Linda then asked about the contents insurance for the Library due to the fact that the computers have been upgraded.

The Librarian will do an inventory and Edie will check this with LGC.

With no further question the board returned to the Town Office to sign papers. (7:23 PM)

The first review was a Land Use Change Tax to be billed.

David made a motion to issue the LUCT to property owned by Peter Harrison.

Maury seconded the motion and a unanimous vote then carried the motion.

Maury suggested getting a list of all area assessing companies for review before the Cross Country Contract is up for renewal at the end of the year. All agreed.

Chief Pratt let the Board know that he would like to arrange for the inmates to come to the

Ingalls property for cleanup during June 25-29. Maury and Warren will be checking their schedules to assist with the supervision of the inmates. They will also need to check with Mike Tarr for his availability with the equipment.

Edie indicated that John Cucchi had dropped off a CD recording for the Selectmen to listen to. He indicated that there may be criminal accusations associated with the information he delivered. It was decided that this may need to be addressed in a Non- Public session at a future meeting.

The manifest and last week's minutes were reviewed and approved. Both were signed along with all other paperwork.

Maury then made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by David. The motion then carried by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM

June 12, 2012

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Warren Hammack, Chair

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Maury Collins

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David Upton