

Minutes
Winthrop Town Council
Special Meeting

Tuesday July 31, 2007 at 7:00 pm

Town Office

Attendance: Chair Patrice Putman, Councilors Ken Buck, Patricia Engdahl, William MacDonald, Town Manager – Cornell Knight . 40 residents.

Chair Putman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Town Council Workshop on the Public Safety Building

It was decided at the July 16 Town Council/Community Workshop that the July 31 Workshop would be devoted to determining the process and timeline that the Public Safety Building Committee should use in making the next recommendation to the Town Council and the community. The committee and Council are to keep in mind the project costs and its affect on the property tax mil rate.

1. Membership: Who is going to serve on the Public Safety Building Committee?

Discussion on the size of the committee. 12 people in attendance wanted to be on the committee.

Motion by Buck Seconded by Engdahl to add the 12 people to the existing 20 member committee plus any council members, John Dean will chair the committee. Vote 4-0.

New committee members are Jim Harrington, Michael Czado, Rick Dorey, Dave Bubier, Carol Hasenfus, Sandy Moody, Charli Clark, Ken Johnson, William Kieltyka, Russ Hazzard, Larry Fitzgerald, Roger Kilgore.

2. What is the price range that the community is willing to spend on public safety buildings?

Reviewed the debt payment schedule for various project costs and the town's retiring debt schedule.

Bill Kieltyka said all of the budget should be looked at for savings to offset the debt payment.

Cindy Spence said the Branding Iron should be looked at again.

Roger Kilgore said no more than \$2,000,000 should be spent.

Russ Hazard said the project should be done well within what the town can afford.

3. Committee should approach nearby communities (Monmouth, Readfield, Manchester, Wayne) to determine if there is any possibility for regionalization efforts

Ken Johnson said regionalization should be the first question to answer.

Joe Young said proposals for service have been provided to other towns but have been rejected.

Chair Putman said the committee should consider a significant reduction from the original \$4,000,000 whichever option is recommended.

Chief Young will talk with neighboring communities about joint services.

4. Should we renovate/expand any of the existing buildings for use as safety buildings?

It was agreed to add the EMS move to the Fire Station to the list including Branding Iron, Health Center, Landfill buildings, Joe Jones Building, public works area behind the fire station and the original recommended site. The committee will consider that all departments do not need to be in one location.

5. What is the date in which the Town Council wants a final decision?

Discussion on whether to have a ballot for November 6 election, which requires a recommendation by Sept 17th, a special election or the June 11, 2008 primary date.

No date was set but the Committee will give an update at the Sept 10 Council meeting and discuss timeframes.

6. Plan for communication of process and recommendation. The meetings will be open to the public, notices on the internet and the committee members are expected to attend and stay informed if missing a meeting.

The first meeting will likely be Tuesday August 7 at 6:30 pm.

Chair Putman reviewed the committee's task:

The committee will bring a recommendation back to the Town Council that will have a significant reduction in costs, with various options and costs; Chief Young will contact neighboring towns about regionalization and report back to the committee; the sites to be looked at will be the Branding Iron, Health Center, landfill buildings, EMS at Fire Station, Joe Jones and the Rte 202 site; public safety departments do not have to be in one location; committee meetings shall be open to the public, post on the internet, if members miss a meeting they need to contact a member to catch up; report on progress to the Council at their Sept 10 meeting and a timetable for a recommendation and to include the communications plan.

Motion by MacDonald Seconded by Buck to adjourn at 9:00 pm. Vote 4-0.