

Planning Commission 7/10/2017

*Call to Order: Rick called meeting to order at 7:00PM

*Roll Call: Dale, Dawn, Dennis, Patty, Rick, Ron, Steve

*Review of Minutes from 3/13/17:

Patty motioned to approve, 2nd by Steve >> approved

*Public Comment:

Dennis mentioned that the Cobban Bridge public meeting on July 17th conflicted with the monthly Town Board meeting and inquired if someone would be available to represent the TB. Patty said she would be available to attend the meeting.

Rod Stetzer was present and reminded members that the Cobban Bridge would also be on the County Board meeting agenda for 7/11/17.

*Old Business: (none)

*New Business:

1)Rick opened discussion on how the PC should best proceed with efforts to inform the public about plans for adding onto/remodeling and/or building a new fire station and to get feedback on options. Would there be a referendum?

Initial discussion suggested a September 25th special electors meeting.

Building options were reviewed:

-Option 1, remodeling/addition to existing facility estimate would be at a cost of \$529,292.00

Jeff Bowe inquired as to whether or not all viable options had been explored eg. construction of a new but separate building that would supplement (but not replace) the existing facility. Dennis felt that the engineering firm hired by the Town had been given enough information already and had presented the Town with adequate options. Dennis also made the comment that the current mandate of the PC was not to further explore options but to decide how to best go about informing the public of the present options and gain feedback and a consensus from the public.

-Option 2, new building at an estimated cost of \$883,788

Option 2 necessitates two further options of :

-utilizing current ball field to build

-acquiring property from another party (sp. from Klinger Farms... two acres at a cost of \$30,000 (plus \$2000 for closing costs)

Rick presented a series of hypothetical questions that he had anticipated we might get from the public and asked for thoughts as to other questions the public might have. He will email those questions to the other PC members.

Mr. Stetzer also pointed out the upcoming public elections if we were to consider a referendum. These dates were as follows:

2/20/2018- Spring Primary (if needed)
4/3/2018 Spring Election
8/14/2018 Partisan Primary
11/6/2018 General Election

After some discussion, the following time-line was proposed:

8/14- monthly PC meeting: review presentation materials
8/21- special announcement mailing (letter or postcard to the public) directing the public to the town website for viewing the current options.
8/26- Annual Fire Department fundraiser (a booth will need to be set up and staffed to provide the public about the proposed project)
9/12- Public presentation #1 (Tue.) 6:00PM-8:00PM
9/23- Public presentation #2 (Sat.) 9:00AM-11:00AM
9/25 2nd mailing to public as a reminder for the special elector's meeting
10/2 Special Electors meeting

Randy Woodruff pointed out that the FD currently has \$104,000.00 in a discretionary fund and felt that some portion or all of it could or should be put forth for the project. It was felt that the best course of action for this would be to take the proposal back to the FD for discussion.

Discussion was had about terms of a loan for the project as to whether a 10 year or 15 year would be in the best interest of the Town and which would appeal most to the public.

Dennis mentioned that he had explored several options for supplemental funding;

- currently Eagle Point would be considered “too wealthy” for the Community Block Grant Program
- there might be a viable option for a State Trust Fund loan program
- there might also be an option for the Rural Development Program

2) Rick gave a brief overview of what he found in the presentations provided through the Extension office.

*Adjournment:

Patty moved for adjournment, 2nd by Steve>>> meeting adjourned 8:50PM

submitted by Ron Woodruff