

Approved September 28, 2016

Mendon Police Station Building Committee Meeting
Mendon Town Hall
Mendon, MA 01756
Wednesday, September 14, 2016
7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

The Building Committee joined the Mendon Board of Selectmen's meeting that was called back to order after recess by Rich Schofield at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Present:

Chris Burke, Mark Reil, Chairman Rich Schofield

Building Committee Members Present:

Tim Aicardi, Mike Ammendolia, Joe Cronin, Don Morin, Eric Peterson, Moritz Schmid, Linda Thompson

Others Present:

David Kurczy, Chief, Mendon Public Safety
Linda Hawkes, Mendon Treasurer/Collector

II. Background Information / Committee Expectations

An agenda created by Selectman Burke was distributed to help lead the group through the discussion. Selectman Burke began by thanking the Committee for agreeing to serve on the project. He then provided a brief history of the work completed by the Friends of Mendon Police, of which he was a member. He suggested that the Committee get in touch with Greg Carell to request documents from the work that was performed as well as plans for moving forward. He stated that money was spent and we needed to understand what work remains outstanding from Mr. Carell. Joe Cronin agreed to reach out to Mr. Carell to invite him to a future meeting.

ACTION: Joe Cronin will invite Greg Carell to a future meeting to update the entire group on the past work and the future plans for the building begun by the Friends of Mendon Police.

Selectman Burke stated that it was his intention to attend all future Police Station Building Committee meetings along with Chief Kurczy. Selectman Burke requested that he and the Chief be copied on all Committee correspondence, to which Selectman Chair Schofield added that he wanted all members of the Board of Selectmen copied. Don Morin asked for clarification on what types of correspondence and Selectman Schofield stated that he simply wanted to be made aware when posted meetings were going to be held. Don Morin asked if it would be possible to use the town website to post meeting minutes and track open action items for residents to easily access as this was done with the recently finished library project using the town library website. The Board of Selectmen thought this was a good idea and encouraged it.

ACTION: Don Morin will reach out to Dan Byer to inquire about setting up a page on the Mendon town website for the Police Station Building Committee to use for posting meeting minutes, action items, etc.

Selectman Burke went on to state that the Committee was not to simply look at finishing the existing shell that was started by the Friends of Mendon Police, but that the group should look at all options. He encouraged the Committee to seek information from Chief Kurczy and Greg Carell regarding the status of the existing building and the work needed to finish the structure. The Committee needs to consider the amount of money and effort that has been put into the existing building when making its decision on the best path forward. Selectman Burke encouraged those members of the Committee who haven't seen the building started by the Friends of Mendon Police to take a tour. The Committee agreed to do this as part of its first meeting.

ACTION: Committee members will take a tour of the building as a group to get a firsthand look at its current condition.

After Selectman Burke completed his update, Selectman Chair Schofield shared a document that he created that explains how he believes a police station can be funded without an increase in taxes. He mentioned several potential revenue sources to fund the project, one of which would be to modify the way the town handles its public safety dispatch operations. The Committee should assume that dispatch operations will be needed in the new station, but if that turns out to change in the future, that portion of the project can be value engineered out. Selectman Schofield walked the Committee through the document and agreed to send a soft-copy to Don Morin for it to be distributed to the Committee for further review.

ACTION: Selectman Schofield to send soft-copy of his funding document to Don Morin for Don to share with the rest of the Committee.

Tim Aicardi asked if there were known deficiencies with the building that the Friends of Mendon Police started, and it was acknowledged that since the building was started a few years ago there may be some new requirements that need to be met that weren't addressed when the project began. The Committee will need to comprehend this as it moves forward. Joe Cronin also asked if those who invested money into the building have been contacted regarding potentially not completing it for public safety use. Selectmen Burke stated that he has begun to reach out to those who were instrumental in getting the building started so that they were aware of the expectations of the Committee to look at all options.

At this point the Selectmen turned it over to the Building Committee for them to lead the discussion.

III. Building Committee Discussion

Don Morin handed out a short agenda and the Committee first began to discuss organizing as a group, electing a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer (Budget Tracker). At this point Mike Ammendolia asked if everyone had been

sworn in to the Committee since he had not. At this point it was discovered that Tim Aicardi and Moritz Schmid have not yet been sworn in either. Joe Cronin asked if we had a quorum of members sworn in so that we could organize as a group. Don Morin stated that he wasn't comfortable organizing and voting on leadership positions if all seven members were unable to vote. The Committee agreed with this position and decided to postpone the organization discussion to its next meeting when everyone was able to be sworn in.

IV. Next Meeting Date, Time and Agenda

The best night for the Building Committee members to meet is Wednesday. Mike Ammendolia stated that he was going to be on vacation next week so the group will next meet on Wednesday, September 28th at 7pm. Since the group wanted to take a tour of the existing building, it was suggested that the Committee meet at 6pm for a tour (before it gets too dark) and then reconvene at 7pm at the Fire Station for its formal meeting. The agenda will include voting on a Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer (Budget Tracker). The group will then begin its discussion on how to proceed down the path of determining whether to complete the existing building or look at other options within town.

Since all Committee members might not be sworn in by that time, Don Morin agreed to reach out to the Town Clerk to ask if perhaps she might be able to attend the next meeting to swear in the members at that time.

ACTION: Don Morin will reach out to the Town Clerk to inquire about attending the next meeting to swear in the remaining Committee members at that time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. on a motion by Selectman Burke seconded by Selectman Reil. The vote was unanimous.

Minutes by Don Morin