

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS

2021 Fire Station Building Committee Meeting

Meeting Called By: FSBC

Date, Time: 11/27/23, 5:30 PM

Transcribed By: Courtney Palmer

Location: Tilton Town Hall
Downstairs Meeting Room
257 Main St. Tilton, NH
03276

Call to Order

Paul Blaisdell called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM.

Attendance

Kevin Waldron, Lisa Martin, Paul Blaisdell, Nate Langione, Commissioner Tim Sattler, Chief Michael Sitar, and Derek Farrell.

Minutes

The minutes were reviewed from the 11.13.23 FSBC meeting. Paul made a motion to approve the minutes of 11.13.23. Nate seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Lisa reiterated that she relies on the firefighters/fire department to determine the best location for a new fire station.

Kevin commented that minutes can be vague, but it is important to have intent accurately written into the minutes.

The Committee needs the 10.23.23 revised minutes for the next meeting, so they can review and approve them.

Center Street Site

Loureiro report was received for the Center Street site. There were concerns about the amount of parking. Extensive discussion ensued.

Paul commented that there are three lots, and there is a lot of wasted space. He added that if they could consider the two Town of Tilton lots and TNFD parking as combined, then, TNFD could potentially pick up several more parking spots. Chief Sitar stated that there would have to be a discussion with the Town of Tilton.

Nate commented that they would be compromising on what the facility should be providing and possibly spending more money to provide what features are needed because of space limitations at Center Street.

Paul commented that the current evaluation is only based on the number of parking spots.

Derek commented that the Committee could look into purchasing the roped-off parking lot as well.

Paul commented that he was disappointed in the assessment. The Committee agreed. Chief Sitar mentioned that for parking needed, the number of vehicles they were looking to put there, and the support services, it doesn't fit.

Chief Sitar commented that he believes the only solution if they want to build on Center Street is to discuss it with the Town of Tilton.

Paul would like to make a recommendation to Commissioner Sattler to bring to the Commissioners about whether to accept the current report as is or ask for something concerning a building.

Commissioner Sattler commented that what they need to do is come up with square footage for the first floor and have a conversation with the Town of Tilton.

Extensive discussion ensued about response times, and the data Chief Sitar provided.

Nate mentioned that he found alternate properties near the Center Street station on Chestnut Street and Prospect Street. There could be the potential for a different land swap with Tilton. Discussion ensued about alternate sites for a new station.

Paul commented that the Committee should not consider 16 Chestnut Street because of the narrowness and access to Main Street. The Committee agreed. He asked the Committee if they felt that 5 Prospect Street should be investigated further to determine if it is for sale and/or if the Town of Tilton would be willing to do a land swap for that site instead of Sanborn Road. Extensive discussion ensued.

It was discussed that it seems like what is important to the firefighters is being fully staffed and having the emergency equipment available to them, not necessarily a new building. Chief Sitar commented that the firefighters are not looking at the data on the health effects of the current Center Street building, the proper separation of spaces, and what they can't do with the building to protect them in the long term. They need proper turnout gear storage and decontamination areas.

Paul would like to have Loureiro create a building concept in which they can fit three machines and everything Chief Sitar previously described. Extensive discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sattler stated that he believes they should ask Loureiro for a basic concept for the building based on the footprint needed, and then discuss that and the parking situation with the Selectmen.

Kevin stated that he is concerned about what they will receive from Loureiro and how much money that will cost based on the current evaluation that the Committee received.

Lisa stated that she would like to recommend the Commissioners go to the Tilton Selectmen as the next step before they ask Loureiro to do another evaluation. The Committee agreed.

Commissioner Sattler stated that he would bring this to the Commissioners to decide on.

Next Meeting

The next FSBC meeting will be on December 11th, 2023. The meetings after that will be on January 8th and January 22nd, 2024.

Newsletter

Commissioner Sattler commented that Nate could take out the mention of an informational meeting from the Northfield newsletter and add that the Commissioners have expanded the location criteria and are reevaluating Center Street as a location for a fire station.

Nate stated that he would get the draft out on November 28th and would like the Committee to vote on that by the end of the day on November 29th.

Adjournment

Paul made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nate seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Palmer

Courtney Palmer
Administrative Assistant

Next Meeting Date, Time, Place:

December 11, 2023, 5:30 P.M.
Tilton Town Hall
Downstairs Meeting Room
257 Main Street
Tilton, NH