

OKANOGAN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #6
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
July 8th, 2019

PRESENT: Commissioner Palm, Commissioner Stokes, Commissioner Brandenburg
Asst Chief Stamps, Chief Acord, Secretary Mark Crum, other people attending include:
John Owen, Sam Owen, Celeste Acord, Bruce Hevly, Jesse Fuller, Brian McAuliffe, Val
Hecker, Ken Doran, Ross Darling, Paul Sisson, Ralph Carlberg, Sara Carlberg

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

MINUTES of the June 10th regular meeting Commissioner Brandenburg made motion to
approve minutes as amended from the June meetings Commissioner Stokes seconded, all
were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Commissioner's reviewed the treasurer's report from May and approved. The ending
balance was \$695,880.27 fund balance June. Commissioner Brandenburg made a motion
that the June treasurer's reports be accepted and Commissioner Stokes seconded, all were
in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: N/A

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Emily Sisson recalled a conversation a week ago with an un-named person who
mentioned that a table at the farmers market in Twisp would be helpful to talk about the
new fire station.

Paul Sisson has some questions for Commissioner Stokes. Says he's made good
decisions in the past, needs assessment, station site, vehicle replacements, etc. Now at
the last meeting Stokes said he now doesn't agree with the building site. Wants to know
why Commissioner Stokes has changed his mind, which site is better, how will the
District afford it?

Commissioner Stokes responded that he agreed with the Horizon Flats because of the
Westernization that would have to be adhered to. He firmly believes that the site should
be on SR 20. With the needs assessment, says that they've now come up with a 5%
smaller "new design" than the original. States that price will be a hard sell, but does need
to have training room, a few offices, and larger bays. Stokes cited a previous
conversation with Commissioner Palm where he stated that we agree to a bond of \$1.5.
Stokes as a firefighter and builder / designer is surprised that we need a needs assessment
and states that he is fiscally conservative.

Sisson said that at the pre-election commissioner's forum that the Twisp station was never built out as was originally planned. Sisson stated it would be much more expensive to come back and make the design changes on the new building too. Sisson says that he hopes Stokes would reconsider, based on previous good decisions, and that he would listen to firefighters and consider the market (area) we're in.

Sam Owen asked if the commissioners would consider having meetings at the Winthrop station so it might be closer to other parts of the district. Sam recommended 1 per quarter in Winthrop.

Commissioner Stokes asked if we could look into moving meetings occasionally to Carlton and Mazama too.

OLD BUSINESS:

Financial Report from OCFD6: (prepared by Ralph Carlberg, short bio of Ralph on the report).

Ralph Carlberg prepared a financial report, and Chief Acord read it aloud. See attached here-in.

Chief Acord summarized by stating that the report recommends not purchasing a station in our current financial status. Acord points out that the last bond was ran for 17.5 cents, and that this projection states we could run it at 17 cents on the next potential bond.

Commissioner Palm pointed out that if we had built the station sooner, the cost would have been less.

Paul Sisson states that the total assessed value of the district is 1.3 billion dollars, and compared to the rest of the county put together is a little over 1.4 billion. People building around the 300-400 thousand dollar range would only cost \$5 per month.

New Station:

Chief Acord passed out a document prepared by Watson & Herres dated 6.10.19 proposing a station budget.

Discussion

Commissioner Brandenburg stated that he and Commissioner Palm could eliminate much of the Site Construction line item by donating excavation and site prep work. He says much of the estimate process is dynamic based on timing.

Discussion about planning the timeline

Ralph Carlberg states that you don't piece meal a 50 year building, do it right and complete it the first time. Firefighter safety and the houses of folks that live around the Methow Valley are first priorities, says it needs to be done right.

Commissioner Palm wants to go through the needs assessment room by room, here's the results of that discussion:

Why do we need 6 bays – currently the District has 7 trucks in Winthrop need to be parked. Current exterior drawing shows 1 potential add on bay in the future.

Commissioner Brandenburg says we need to build station that we need right now, and add to the other stations in the future because those areas are also growing.

Keith Comstock says that the new tender may not be able to be stored in Mazama because the new tender is bigger. Stokes clarified that the backup tender could be stored outside, not the new one as its not a good practice to keep current apparatus out in the elements.

Commissioner Stokes stated that you could leave equipment outside and drain them like to prevent from freezing like they did a long time ago.

6 bays with a chance to expand in the future is agreed to be sufficient.

Bunker Room – current design would hold 28 and meet the current size goal of 25 firefighters.

Stokes wants to know if its against State Law to store bunker gear in engine bays. Response from Chief Acord that it's recommended to have gear in a separate room for UV exposure and cross exhaust contamination.

Decon Room –

Sisson read that in the WAC for Firefighters that there needs to be a room for decontamination, or have to regularly service gear any time the gear is dirty.

Commissioner Palm said good idea, and Commissioner Stokes agreed that it sound like we need to.

SCBA Room –

Room for repairing and maintaining SCBA, Sisson states that it's a requirement to have a non circulating air supply for this room.

Repair Room –

Chief Acord states that we want to keep bays as clear as possible and not have workbenches in the bay areas. Commissioner Stokes said that it's a good idea, but is secondary. Commissioner Stokes said workshop would be nice.

Hose Maintenance Room –

600 sq ft room could be too small. Commissioner Palm asks if its big enough, Chief Acord states that it's not enough but could make it work.

Storage Room –

Houses spare equipment, hose, bunker, generators, fittings, etc.

Discussion about where to put work benches, and hose storage. Commissioner Stokes said we could have creative parking to make the correct spacing. Questions about how much space is needed between trucks. 3 ft around 1 truck, 6 ft around two. Stokes stated that is could be worked around, maybe expand far wall by 3 ft to add enough space. Commissioner Brandenburg commented that now you're making the building bigger.

Bathroom and utility rooms seem to be the correct size, Commissioner Palm stated that they don't want to go smaller because of ADA, and utility room is what it is needed to fit the utilities.

Sprinkler room is needed because building is larger than 5000 square ft, not because of the living quarters.

Meeting room discussion. Current Winthrop training room holds 30, Twisp training room is approx. same size as the station design.

John Owen states that as a trainer, the Winthrop station gets small real quick. John states that as our stated goal of 70 in the room could be too small.

Chief Acord re-iterates the needs assessment which says that they build what is needed now, but have some options to build out in the future.

Meeting Storage Room – store chairs, tables, when needed. Room is necessary.

Kitchen – Commissioner Palm states that its needed for firefighters. Chief Acord says that if we have the facility to house volunteers that we provide quicker service and improve response time. Food prep area will provide food during and after incidents. Commissioner Stokes states that it's a secondary need.

Commissioner Brandenburg talks about needing something that keep the firefighters fed, and providing for their needs. The kitchen design area is just an open space, not finished out.

Dorm Rooms – Commissioner Palm states that the dorm rooms are needed so we can provide better service. Needs assessment states that rooms are provided so firefighters can rest when exhausted, Volunteer doing shift work can improve fire rating status, .

Sisson wants to know what a rating bureau improvement could mean financially to a homeowner. Commissioner Brandenburg comments that probably not a lot to the individual, but more to the insurance companies.

Sam Owen wants to know what happens when 911 is not functioning, and states that the station has to be staffed when a 911 outage occurs.

Commissioner Stokes wants to determine if the dorm space could be a temporary space. He says that everything is needed, but doesn't believe that a bond would pass.

Commissioner Brandenburg explains that Stokes' \$1.5 million building cost isn't possible. Commissioner Stokes says that working bathrooms and insulated bays could be built for that cost.

Celeste Acord states that you're going to see a declining fire department because volunteers won't continue to volunteer with inadequate facilities.

Keith Comstock states that you're going to see faster response, and better training with a new station.

John Owen says don't just think about structure fires when analyzing the districts calls, think about wildfires and how often structure fires are prevented by fighting affective wildland fires.

Commissioner Palm asked Commissioner Stokes what could be done to make it better for Carlton taxpayers, Commissioner Stokes states keep it as convenient as possible for firefighters.

Keith Comstock says if the need was the same in Carlton, we'd be sitting here discussing that we'd need the same think in Carlton. He adds that it's not a Carlton vs Winthrop matter.

Multi purpose room – needed for exercise room, comradery, electrical room, second story training facility. It has a mezzanine that could be used for training, S&R, ladder work, etc.

Commissioner Stokes asks if it's just a multipurpose room do we have to plan for ADA. Chief Acord says no its not subject to ADA codes.

Bathrooms – needed for public, and ADA accessible. Stokes wants to know what other set of bathrooms are, they are for firefighters. Meeting room would have bathrooms specific for public use.

Office equipment – printers, network devices, office supplies

Secretary area – is an open area designed for Board Secretary, small meeting room

Chiefs office – not furnished

Offices (3) – small spaces

Library – needed for study areas, storage of and access to training manuals. Could provide workspace for telecommuters and areas to work on preplans. Approx 160 sq ft.

Commissioner Palm asks how we come up with 26 rooms like was stated in the letter to the editor in the Methow Valley News.

Commissioner Palm stated that we have use for every single room on the floor plan. Commissioner Palm also stated that some of the rooms are too small, but we can make it work.

Commissioner Palm asked Commissioner Stokes what we should taken out of the floorplan to make it smaller.

Emily Sisson states that the Commissioners should stop calling it the Winthrop station and change it to the New station.

Chief Acord reminds the Commissioners that the Winthrop Station was cited as a priority.

Commissioner Palm says that after we've gone over all the rooms, how does the public feel about the space. Sam Owen says go for it, Emily Sisson states that if we do a shell and add on that it won't be fiscally conservative like he states he is, states she believes it will be more expensive over the long run.

Sisson states that Kittatis 7 built in 3 phases, and he said that they told him it cost an extra 1 million dollars to do it in such a manner.

Commissioner Palm said that we have to decide when they are going to start pushing the campaign.

Chief Acord says before that happens that the board might want to think about approving a floor plan and budget number.

Commissioner Stokes says that at this point yes to the basic floor plan.

Commissioner Palm makes a motion to go forward with the revised 12,000 sq ft floor plan. Decision was made to re-visit the floor plan motion in the future.

Paul Sisson asks the board to consider the timeline and don't do a "bait and switch" because they aren't getting started for a year plus. Don't want to say you're going to spend \$3.5 and then get bids and have to spend \$4.5 as an example.

Commissioner Palm says that we do have the existing old estimates, and the engineers estimate. Commissioner Brandenburg says that at this point we have to convince the public on the engineers estimate.

Chief Acord encourages the commissioners to make a decision sooner than later as prices are going up.

Chief Owen proposes that the commissioners have a special meeting on the 29th at 7:00 PM in Twisp to discuss the New Fire Station. Special Meeting scheduled for July 29th at the Twisp Station to discuss the New Fire Station.

NEW BUSINESS:

Capital Improvements & Operations Plan:

Vehicle Replacement Schedule was last visited in 2016. Chief Acord would like the commissioners to go through it and make any updates and changes for next meeting.

Commissioner Stokes wants to know if there's any chance the shower in Twisp station could get improved? Chief Acord says probably not at this point. Going to re-visit at the next meeting.

Commissioner Stokes will no longer be a volunteer firefighter. Chief Acord is looking into it to see if a motion needs to be made to amend the previous resolution that was made.

Chiefs Report:

Monthly Accruals

Chief Acord presented monthly accruals for leave for June.

Committees: N/A

Public Comment #2:


Good of the order:

Executive Session #1

VOUCHER APPROVAL: The vouchers were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Stokes motioned to approve Vouchers #19-219 through 19-231 in the amount of \$227,329.82 for payroll and taxes which were presented for payment on June 21st Vouchers #19-231 through 19-260 regular bills in the amount \$20,090.59 for a total

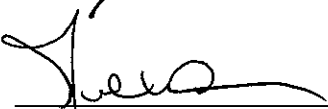
of \$47,420.41 which were presented for payment on July 8th, 2019. Commissioner Palm seconded. Motion approved with all in favor.

The ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 PM.



Commissioner Jerry Palm

ATTEST:



Mark Crum, Secretary