

LISTOWEL FIRE STATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009
4:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office, Fire Hall Meeting Room

Attendance: Doug Kellum, Jeff Bannerman, Julie Behrns, Ron Coghlin, Ed Smith, Ed Hollinger, Steve Hardie, Kate Docker

Guests: Terry Bridge from the Listowel Banner
Regrets: Ken Rea

A tour of the former PUC Building @ 580 Main St.W. took place prior to opening the meeting. It was felt that 4 bays would need to be added to the existing building along with other modifications to make it work. It was noted that the existing fire hall is 2,508 sq. ft. and the recommended size for any new fire halls being constructed is 5,400 sq. ft.

- 1) Call to order – Chair Doug Kellum called the meeting to order @ 4:40 p.m.
- 2) Additions to Agenda – Ed H. wanted to add 1 item to the In Camera session, and Doug added discussing options and a Council recommendation under New Business.

It was moved by Ron Coghlin, seconded by Jeff Bannerman THAT the agenda be approved as modified.

MOTION CARRIED

- 3) Declaration of Pecuniary Interest – None declared.
- 4) Review & Adopt Mar. 25th Minutes – Julie noted that an amendment to the minutes should be made on page 2 – It should read “we should have conversation with the County with regards to any EMS station and see if we can partner with them”.

It was moved by Julie Behrns, seconded by Jeff Bannerman THAT the minutes from the March 25th meeting be adopted as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

- 5) Business Arising from Minutes – None.
- 6) Delegation(s) – None.
- 7) Review & Discuss Rough Pricing on 3 Options – Steve noted that there is no pricing provided for Option 1 as there is a question as to if it is even viable in light of the training exercise held Tuesday. The current station plus fire office is 3,385 sq. ft. and the recommendation for new stations is 9,530 sq.ft. A central location to provide training for North Perth stations would be ideal. The consensus of the Committee was that it doesn't make sense to do major renovations to the fire station in the present location. It was noted that there are a few areas where we are not presently compliant (air compressor system and washroom facilities for female firefighters for example). There was concern expressed that interaction between the committees is not happening. There was discussion as to whether we are looking at a short term or long term solution and determined both are indicated under the 3 options we are

looking at. There has been no Council direction at this point on the services being supplied

Options 2 – The cost to renovate the Public Works building is estimated at \$724,800. There are 3 areas of concern noted: relocation of the occupants of that building, cost for developing an access to Main St. and installing traffic lights are not included in the estimate, and meeting any requirements of dealing with historical aspect of the building. There was discussion whether Fire and Public Works could co-habitate in the same location and how to overcome the issues that would arise.

It was noted that to date we have only looked at retrofitting one building – perhaps the arena could be put to use for fire or Public Works usage.

Option 3 – Based on the recommended square footage of 9,530, a new fire station would cost approximately \$1.5 mil depending on the cost of land. The structure needs to be made of steel, not wood. Comparisons were made to the Sebringville station but it is not deemed suitable for Listowel's needs. Other comparables regarding cost and size are needed.

It was felt that although this Committee is not in a position to pick a location for a new facility, location should be considered if we are to totally investigate our options. In light of the recent funding announcement, the timeframe has been significantly shortened for making recommendations to Council.

It was questioned whether it would be feasible for fire and recreation to be in the same facility. Ed S. responded that this was done in Guelph and they are regretting it.

8) In Camera Session

It was moved by Jeff Bannerman, seconded by Ron Coghlin THAT this Committee proceed 'in camera' at 5:39 p.m. to address security of the property of the Municipality or local board.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Ron Coghlin, seconded by Ed Smith THAT the 'in camera' session is now adjourned at 5:49 p.m. and the Listowel Fire Station Committee reconvene into regular open meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

9) Other Business – None.

10) New Business – Doug noted that the chairs from each of the 3 Committees are meeting directly following this meeting and are looking for recommendations for Council. It was discussed that there is not enough information available to make a decision at this point, but that Option 1 does not make sense so it would be either 2 or 3. It was noted that the Administration Building Committee is hoping fire moves out of its present location in order for renovations to be made to accommodate Admin. The Multi-Purpose Complex Committee is opting for a new complex. Both of these recommendations are based on receiving funding. There was discussion about the opportunity of 2/3rds funding through Build Canada and ISF that is available and that since we know we have to spend substantial dollars, we may as well apply for it and base our final decision on whether or not we get it.

It was moved by Ron Coghlin, seconded by Jeff Bannerman THAT the Listowel Fire Station Committee recommends to North Perth Council that the Director of Finance is directed to make application for funding to re-locate fire from its present location.

MOTION CARRIED

11) Announcements – The next meeting was set for **Wed. Apr. 29th @ 7:00 p.m.** in the Committee Room @ the Municipal Building.

It was moved by Jeff Bannerman, seconded by Julie Behrns THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Chairperson – **Doug Kellum**

Date

Recording Secretary – **Kate Docker**

Date