

**LISTOWEL FIRE STATION COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2009**  
**3:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office, Committee Room**

Attendance: Doug Kellum, Jeff Bannerman, Julie Behrns, Ken Rea, Ed Smith, Steve Hardie, Kate Docker

Guests: Terry Bridge from the Listowel Banner  
Regrets: Ed Hollinger, Ron Coghlin

- 1) Call to order – Chair Doug Kellum called the meeting to order @ 3:05 p.m.
- 2) Additions to Agenda – Item #4.5 – Opening Comments, was added.

*It was moved by Ed Smith, seconded by Ken Rea THAT the agenda be approved as modified.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 3) Declaration of Pecuniary Interest – None declared.
- 4) Delegation(s) – None.

Opening Comments – Doug welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Listowel Fire Station Committee and thanked everyone for attending. The mandate for the North Perth Facilities Infrastructure Committees was read (as seen on bottom of the agenda). Doug added that there will be some tough choices to be made but he is confident this group is up to the task and will ensure fire prevention and fire services for today and future generations.

- 5) Review Recording Secretary's Responsibilities – A list of Kate's duties for the 3 committees was reviewed. Steve stressed that this is a committee of Council, not a staff Committee, and that any notes on recommendations for Council will be sent to the chair.
- 6) Review Progress Schedule – Steve went over this 2 year process with the group for information only.
- 7) Review Report Recommendations – For information – will refer to from time to time.
- 8) Review Consultants/Council Options – For information – will refer to from time to time.
- 9) Review Council Comments – For information – will refer to from time to time.
- 10) Share Ideas – Jeff feels the best option is to re-locate fire to the former PUC building where there is more land base and better access. The existing location could be used for other services. A new fire hall at the end of town would not be the best option if it is outside of the Listowel core area. Ken would like to see fire moved from its present location because of congestion and would like a new facility if suitable property is available. If the former PUC building is the best option, that could work also. Julie feels Council needs to evaluate what services we are providing i.e. the needs of the community and required services, and prioritize. This could

have an impact on which facility would best meet our needs. Should we be doing tiered response? Service coverage is to be considered. We're planning for the future needs and perhaps the fire master plan should be reviewed to see what the whole fire service will look like.

Ed S. will work on a combined needs and wish list. Listowel needs to meet the '10 men in 10 minutes' requirement, which won't work if we locate outside of town. The level of service we provide is Council's responsibility. We are training to the provincial standard and right now, Monkton is the best facility for training as they have a full upstairs with a/c and lots of area downstairs to use, with a large parking lot. Listowel should be the headquarters. Steve added that training space is required no matter where the Listowel station is located.

Ed said that joint training would be nice to have in one location, so this should be considered if building a new facility. In this respect, we have to be careful where we are located so as to restrict public access as needed.

Doug feels we want to not only meet but exceed requirements. Option 3 may be an issue for the '10 in 10'. There could be some suitable property in Listowel for building on.

Ed feels there are some issues to overcome at the former PUC building: there are hills both sides of the exit onto Main St. which pose visibility issues. This could be overcome with the installation of lights. Also, an addition would be needed to the bays. Public Works would have to be re-located if that option is chosen.

Steve feels the next step is to have internal staff and contractors provide costing estimates for each option as well as identify the pros and cons.

Ed informed the group that any new halls that are being built in communities where there is growth are accommodating for possible full-time firefighters in the future.

It was noted that if the Municipal staff are re-located to a different facility, it would open up options for adding on to the fire hall.

Julie added that EMS will be re-building in the next few years and we should have conversations with them to see if we could partner with them on retrofitting or building new.

Doug asked if the other committees are hinging their decision on us.

Steve replied that although cross connections affecting other facilities are imminent, they are developing their own 3 options. Once costing is set for each option, it could make decisions easier. Land value would need to be incorporated.

Julie asked if the present location is the best location.

Ed responded that it is, but he would not be able to build here under new Provincial regulations as we are too close to the flood plain and the river.

Access is good, the downtown core is always an issue, but it will be an issue no matter where we locate. Light changers can be installed at intersections to help direct the traffic.

Julie said that flood plain mapping is being updated based on the new conduit, and the property could possibly be expanded to neighbouring land.

Steve and Ed will proceed with the costing of the 3 options discussed.

Julie asked if we have tracked where the majority of calls are going out to.

Ed said it varies and is hard to pinpoint, but it is pretty much spread evenly throughout the Municipality.

- 11) Committee to discuss and produce 3 options to investigate – The 3 options this Committee will be looking at are: Stay as is and renovate (if

administration leaves); relocate to an existing facility (i.e. PUC) and renovate to suit; and, build a new fire hall at a different location.

*It was moved by Julie Behrns, seconded by Jeff Bannerman THAT this committee proceed "In Camera" at 4:05 p.m. to address a matter pertaining to security of the property of the municipality or local board.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

*It was moved by Ken Rea, seconded by Jeff Bannerman THAT the "In Camera" session is now adjourned at 4:35 p.m. and the Listowel Fire Station Committee reconvene into regular open meeting.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

12) Other Business – Rough pricing on the 3 options will be prepared for the next meeting, and a facilities and potential property tour will take place.

13) New Business – There was no new business.

14) Announcements – The next meeting was set for **Thurs. Apr. 16th @ 4:00 p.m.** at the former PUC building, 580 Main St.W.

*It was moved by Ed Smith, seconded by Julie Behrns THAT the meeting be adjourned at 4:45 p.m.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Chairperson – **Doug Kellum**

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Date

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Recording Secretary – **Kate Docker**

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Date