

Fire Department Facilities Review Committee
2nd Meeting Minutes – Tour of Fire Station located on Killington Road
December 17, 2014 held at the Fire Station @ 7:00pm

Committee Attendees:

Seth Webb, Killington Town Manager
Gary Roth, Killington Fire & Rescue Chief
Stephen Finneron, Committee member
Vito Rasenas, Committee member
Otto Iannantuoni, Committee member
Andrew Salamon, Committee member

Committee Absentees:

Chet Hagenbarth,
Andrea Wegmuth (note: Gary took Andrea on a tour of the Fire Station earlier in the day)

Other Attendees:

Bryanna Allan – Rutland Herald
Charlie Holland – Killington Resident

Meeting overview

- Steve Finneron called the meeting to order at 7:00pm
- 1st meeting minutes of December 5th approved
- There was no Citizen's input.
- 2nd Meeting Purpose: Gary Roth to lead the committee on a tour of the Fire Station and point out current conditions.
- The following Hand-outs were distributed by Seth Webb to the Committee
 - Agenda
 - Site map of Fire Station
 - Architectural Assessment by Dore, Whittier Architects, Inc. of the current facility
 - A Special Select board Meeting Summary of Tuesday, July 8th, 2014 @ 10:am –A summary list by Dore, Whittier Architects, Inc
- Gary Roth gave a brief overview of the assessments Dore, Whittier Architects, Inc cited in their report and answered questions as he went through each assessment.
 - Currently, all physical plant maintenance (plumbing, electrical, etc) work is contracted with outside professional vendors (lowest bidder).
 - Otto Iannantuoni shared that in the early days (1960's and early 1970's) of the fire department, there was no budgeted money for maintenance, so the fire department relied on volunteers (licensed tradesmen) to do the work. The land the current facility uses was a gift to the town by the Bates family. The town now owns this land.
- Gary Roth's tour:
 - Began in the training room on the 2nd floor. It is a multiple use room. Fire fighting classroom training and first aid training are

- conducted here. It was used as an emergency center during Hurricane Irene. It is available to outside groups for meetings, etc.
- The tour proceeded downstairs to the original portion of the fire station, built in 1974.
 - This is a 2 bay structure that houses 3 fire trucks. These trucks must be backed into the bays. Alongside the trucks are cubby style stalls that store the fire fighters' garments, boots, etc. There is minimum room to maneuver while dressing. The trucks are housed in very tight spaces with minimum clearance from structural support columns and the doors and dressing areas. Many times the fire fighters dress in the dark and cold. The light switches are not easily accessible in the dark. In addition, many of the fire fighters dress while the trucks are running in this confined space.
 - Some of the facility's issues that Gary brought up in this section of the Fire Station: they included, but not limited to, early wiring used aluminum wires (a no-no today). The support columns for this section are beginning to rust at the bottom. The cement floor is deteriorating.
 - Upon Steve's request, Gary (later in the evening) walked us through the procedure for entering the building in the middle of the night and illustrated what it is like to dress in this cold dark section of the Fire Station.
 - Gary led us into the middle 2 bays of the fire station. This addition was added on in 1984.
 - We passed the one bathroom (sink and toilet) in this facility on our way to the middle section.
 - By design, there is a 30,000-gallon water storage tank under the floor of this addition. The water pump that transfers water from the storage tank to the trucks, a pumper truck, and a rescue truck, works adequately, but does spray water at the hose connections. This water pump is located directly under the electrical service boxes (circuit breaker boxes) that are mounted on the wall.
 - The electrical wiring is more up-to-date in this area (copper). Gary spoke about the life of truck tires. Once they are 7 years old, they should be replaced. If the tires fit a town utility or road maintenance truck, then they are transferred to the road crew. If they do not fit any of the town's other trucks they are traded-in to the tire distributor and are pro-rated and their pro-rated value is applied to the purchase of new tires.
 - This section of the fire station is also tight quarters for people to walk around the apparatus and lighting is may need improvement.

- There are no dressing areas in this section.
 - This addition has truck access to each bay in front and rear.
- Gary then took us into the latest addition, a single bay just for the Tower truck, built in 1998.
 - It is well lit; warm; has ample room to walk around the Tower truck. It is sufficient for the truck.
 - Gary has plans to add the dressing areas for the search and rescue team in this bay, alongside the truck. Once added, this will be a tight dressing area, similar to fire fighters' dressing area in the original 2 bays we visited first.
 - This single bay has access truck in front and rear. The tower truck must make a broken turn to enter from the rear and would extend completely across Killington Road to back in the front.
 - We then returned upstairs via the only egress, to the south side of the staircase to the kitchen and recreation room (it has a pool table). This large room is located over the original 2 bays built in 1974. Off this room are the Chief's office, and the President's office and two storage walk-in closets. Retired fire fighter's clothing is stored in one and the other is general storage. The life of fire fighter's garments is 10 years.
 - We returned to the training room (our starting point) and Gary reviewed the site map, easements, and property lines. Currently the fire station has a handshake agreement with Steve Durkee that is OK for firefighters to park on his adjacent land.
 - All noted that the staircase is in need of an additional banister.
 - During this meeting, all attendees participated by asking questions and providing pertinent information (current and historical).
 - The meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

Action items:

Town Manager, Seth Webb will present the powerpoint (ppt) presentation that was presented to the select board by Dore, Whittier Architects in July 2014. This ppt reviews maintenance to correct/upgrade the existing Fire Station on the current land site to current standards. It also defines what costs or upgrades trigger the Vermont State requirement that the entire facility be brought up to current standards.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 7th, 2015 at 7:00pm at the Town Office on Killington Road.

Minutes submitted by Andrew Salamon, December 5, 2014.