

Middlefield Fire House Building Committee
405 Main Street Middlefield CT 06455
 May 17, 2023

Attendance: A=Absent X=Present

Members

Others Present

X	Bruce Villwock	X	Pete Tyc
X	Paul Pizzo		
X	Alice Malcolm (arrived at 7:12pm)		
X	Ryan Colwell		
X	Kevin Boyle		
A	Howard Weissberg		
X	Steven Tyc		

Call to order

Paul Pizzo, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Approve Agenda

Bruce Villwock made a motion, second by Kevin Boyle, to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

- a. May 3, 2023 Meeting

Steven Tyc made a motion, second by Ryan Colwell, to approve the May 3, 2023 minutes. Motion Carried.

Discussion of options after the BOS and BOF presentation

Paul Pizzo stated Middletown received money from the State of Connecticut Emergency Services and Public Protection, the amount that was received was one million dollars. It was put in by Q. Williams and Matt Lesser and received last session. It comes from the Bond Commission, Paul hoped that the

FBC could get on the Bond Commission. Once the package is put together, they could go to the Lieutenant Governor and see what she recommends and go see Matt Lesser as well. Pete Tyc stated that Senator Cohen indicated they would like to sit down and go over what the FBC is looking for and come up with a plan for the next session. Pete stated Mike Quinn would like to help them with what they need. Paul thought they could approach the state senators or Senator Blumenthal. Kevin Boyle hoped that the Lieutenant Governor would be able to give some insight on the topic. Paul would ask if there is pre-development funding available. Many questions were discussed among the FBC regarding their next steps. Pete is going to have a phone call with their grant person, Greg Bavis, with First Responder Grants. Pete printed out the bill proposed by the two Maryland senators, endorsed by the International Association of Fire Chiefs; it is active and being pursued and he felt they should encourage their state Senators to support that. Paul stated because it is national it should go to Blumenthal and Murphy. Paul said he would give Dustin Harrison, from Senator Blumenthal's office a call. Paul encouraged that they talk about the package. Steven Tyc said he would work on condensing the information, additions, renovations, existing equipment and get it in order. Paul suggested a one-page summary from KBA or Bob Mitchell be added about what a firehouse should have. He asked when they thought they could have a ten-to-twelve-page package put together, Steven stated in a couple of days. The FBC discussed what KBA and the FBC should include in the package in detail. Pete talked about his conversation with Bob Mitchell at length and the FBC hoped that Scott Mangiagli would be willing to come and talk at the town meeting to answer questions and the safety needs of the fire company. Pete stated that they have a very similar situation as Lisbon and they might be able to help the FBC navigate, Paul asked Pete for their contact information so that he could get in touch with them. Alice Malcolm discussed the original project cost estimate and how it has increased since their initial discussions, and Paul explained what they presented to the meeting the previous night with the BOS and BOF, that Alice was unable to attend, and how the cost of construction has doubled in the past three years. Paul spoke about the meeting and that The Boards stated they would help the FBC search for grant money to assist them to get it in an agreed range, and now moving forward the FBC would try to solicit grant money at state and federal levels. The question was posed whether they should hire a grant writer, Paul hoped that they would find out where the grants are coming from and once that is known they might be able to get help in the grant writing from them. Kevin Boyle discussed numbers and the amount in grant money they would need, in the nine-million-dollar range. Steven and Pete suggested going through and doing a thorough scanning of what is needed again- Paul and Kevin stated they can do that later, but use what they have for now. Steven asked clarification on if they were looking to meet on Tuesday, May 30 or Wednesday, May 31st, the FBC said Tuesday. Steven then asked if they wanted to try and get legislators for the FBC meeting the following Wednesday, June 7th. Paul wanted the package put together first; Pete felt they should wait until the session is over in June. Steven wanted to ask them for suggestions to explore for funding, Paul felt that could be done over the phone and that they would have to send them the paperwork to see first. Paul would like to have the letter to be drafted by the Tuesday, May 30th meeting.

Schedule Next Meetings for program and design changes

Special meeting, Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 6:30pm with the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen.

Review of Payables for Project

Kevin Boyle made a motion, second by Ryan Colwell, to approve the payment for the full contract amount for KBA, less \$2,000.00 for invoice # 21044.00-8 dated April 28, 2023. Motion Carried.

Adjourn

Bruce Villwock made a motion to adjourn at 7:42pm, second by Steven Tyc. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amity French-Wilson
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