

Fire Sub-Station Committee Meeting

July 29, 1997

NOTE: As Don Schmidt is out of town due to work, and John Fawcett not attending any meetings to date, did not feel comfortable running this meeting, Lisa Thomas agreed to Chair this meeting.

1. **Roll Call:** John Fawcett; Doug Cloepfil; Bert Pennock; Bill Rosacker; Margurite Simpson; Lisa Thomas; Michael Sherman and Jill Dorrell taking minutes.
Not present: Don Schmidt; Charles Cox; Estella Dare; Ralph Farley; Stan Gaibler and Eric Johnson.
2. **Minutes:** A motion was made by Bert, seconded by Margurite, to approve the minutes as amended. This motion was approved by a unanimous vote.
3. **Plan of Action:**
 - a) **Press:** Graphic has published one article. However, it does not appear that the Mayor has had an opportunity to add more to her article in the graphic. KLYC, through Stella Bohnsack, has contacted Mayor, but nothing has been arranged at this point. The TCI show went well. Chief Sherman, Don Schmidt, Chris Mayfield and Frank Douglas were on the show. Seven phone calls were received. Although a few of the questions were not pertinent, there was a lot of information given that should have answered almost everyone's questions.
 - b) **Drawings:** A display board with color sketches was set up along with black and white drawings that were distributed for each committee member to look at. Response maps were also presented.
 - c) **Financial:** The architect is still working on the cost analysis and has not gotten the information back to the Chief yet, but it appears that the architect projects more square footage than Chief estimated. However, construction costs are lower than Chief estimated, training space is smaller due to set backs of 10 ft. with .5 acre outside training space. This will be a nice building that will be functional 50 years from now, it will be very similar to the police station. The sleeping area will be separate from the day use area, training area will be in the center and easily accessible.

Bert asked about the office marked for police. Chief replied that it will be a place for the officers and/or sheriff to use when they are out in this area.

John asked if there would be enough width for a truck company and Chief said that it will easily fit 3 across and 2 deep. Chief said that until there are multiple units, the units will have plenty of room to drive through when returning.

Bill Rosaker asked if the possibility of having a double majority vote would be a factor for this ballot. Chief said yes, that did apply and he hoped that the fire department has done it's job and there will be enough people respond to pass the ballot. He said that 8 people in 3 hours contacted 127 people. Discussion on survey results. Margurite felt that when they talked with the people who had concerns, and explained how things will be, they changed a lot of people's mind.

- d) Chief explained the 3 response maps. They show the location of the current volunteers and the proposed locations of stations 2 & 3. The fire and medical calls in the last 3 years in each of these areas (excluding the rural), and lastly the areas divided in to sections and the number of calls per section. Chief has talked with Park & Rec and at this time nothing solid, but there may be a possibility of getting some free land. Lisa said to be sure to tell Chris and his helpers they did a great job.

Chief said the main issue that will be stressed when talking with voters is that take pride in your community as well as informing them on the issues. A group of citizens are excited about purging the voters roles and possibly talking to citizens.

- e) Comparables: These figures were included in the 1st packet's minutes.
- f) Sign: (in progress) Duane gave permission to write a PO for the sign on Monday, it will cost approximately \$150. The volunteers will need to build a frame/stand, it will be a 2 sided sign, close to the road and stand about 8 feet tall.
- g) Video: The tape is done and here if anyone wants to see it.
- h) Survey: The survey results are included in this packet. Most of the results were positive, and it sounds like most people's concerns are easily dealt with.
- i) Public Meeting: An on-sight meeting, possibly an ice cream social, but don't want to get ahead of the Council. However, we do have people interested and willing to donate, but we want to get the Council's blessing before going any further.

- 4. **Council Meeting 8/4:** Lisa asked who will make the presentation to council. Chief said that under committee reports, Don Schmidt and/or the Mayor will.

Lisa said that the tower, and the fire station being a Taj Mahal were the most common negative comments that she had heard and also concern about the amount of money being spent on this project. Lisa said that she hoped we have all bases covered to answer any questions that may come up. She also asked if there has been any dialog as to whether or not we will be using the same process as the City did with the Public Safety Complex. Chief said at this point we will be using the same, if all works out well, otherwise we will go out to bid for a contractor.

- a. Committee Recommendation: The City Council meeting starts at 7:00pm on August 4, 1997, in the Library. Lisa would like to encourage everyone, if possible, to please attend. The public meeting has been set for August 21, 1997, at 6:30 pm on the proposed site. John asked what the Committee's goal was. Doug said that if we wait until May, ISO may not wait that long, if we are re-graded at this time there is little change that we will retain our current rating. Chief added that inflation costs are about 3-5% per month at this time. If we wait until May, there will be no election costs, however, the cost for the November ballot will be divided between all who put items on the ballot, Park & Rec might be putting something on too. John asked if there were any stats concerning votes with the double majority, he has only heard of one or two ballots that have passed. Bill said that the county needs to clean out their files before we have a ballot so we can have a fair chance at this vote.

A motion was made by Bert, seconded by Margurite, to make a presentation to the Council on Aug 4th. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

The Committee's recommendation to the City Council is that the fire substation bond issue be put on the November 1997 ballot. The Committee directed Chief to write a letter of explanation to the Council as to the reasoning of the Committee and explaining the following;

- i. Cost: Election costs vs rising inflation costs
- ii. ISO: Insurance increase if rating were lowered and re-grading factors/concerns.
- iii. Delay: Delays in construction and delays in improving responses to this area.

5. Open discussion:

Bill asked about the use of the station for public meetings in this area. Chief said that there will be a coded door for the public to use that can be changed the next day or as necessary.

Bill thought that the committee should have more than a month to get people interested and to get more people out to vote. Bert said that when school starts is the best time to contact people, vacations over, etc., and maybe we can do something then to draw interest.

6. **Next Meeting:** There was a lot of discussion on when to hold the next meeting. After several suggestions, it was decided to hold the next meeting after the public meeting on the proposed site on August 21, 1997. Bert suggested that we have all maps, stats, any/all data possible and be available to answer any questions. Bert also suggested that we contact all the major businesses in that area too. Chief said that flyers will be distributed throughout the area including the Graphic and a few radio stations. All of this will hinge on what the Council's response is when this proposal is given at the August 4th meeting.

Lisa asked that if this issue were passed, what would the timeline be. Chief said that hopefully ground breaking would be in spring, and be occupied by this time next year. This will be a very simple project in comparison to the new public safety complex. There is a sewer line that cuts across the lot, that will need to be moved or lined with cast iron.

Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST on this 28st day of August, 1997


Fire Chief