

MINUTES of the FIRE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE
June 23, 2022 @ 3:30 p.m.

Committee Members present:

Councilor Martin Pepin, Chairman
Councilor David Witham, Vice-Chairman
Councilor Kenneth Vincent
Citizen Representative Paul Robidas

Staff Members present:

City Manager Bob Belmore
Finance Director Scott Smith
Planning Secretary Dana Crossley
Fire Chief George Kramlinger

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pepin at 3:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES, March 23, 2022

Councilor Witham made a motion to approve the past minutes from March 23, 2022. The motion was seconded by Robidas and passed 4-0.

DISCUSSION OF BUILDING CHANGE ORDERS

Manager Belmore stated the Committee's packet contained a memo from the Fire Chief regarding several proposed change orders from him. Belmore outlined the change order review process that flows from the Fire Chief to the City Manager and Finance Director with which they all review and a decision is made on how to move forward, or not, with those potential change orders. With some of those change orders that they have moved forward with some have come at a credit and others require an additional cost. He noted that even though there are some deductions, not all additional proposed changes are approved.

Manager Belmore stated they are bringing this before the Committee to inform them of this process and that there are some proposed change orders that would potentially impact the exterior view of the fire station. The two proposed changes for discussion are to add increased window area in the Day Room and to add two red globe lights to the main entrance. He showed Committee members the architectural renderings of the proposed changes.

Councilor Vincent noted additional windows will benefit the Station because it would allow for more natural light and less electrical light usage.

Councilor Witham noted the Police Department has two blue globes and it would make sense to have the red globes at the Fire Station.

Manager Belmore stated they are still waiting on the cost estimates for these changes.

Councilor Witham stated so long as it is not cost prohibitive, he has no issue with these changes.

Councilor Pepin inquired the status of the training tower. Manager Belmore stated that aspect is another reason they are cautious of approving change orders. He stated that we have been notified that we would receive funding however the amount has not been provided by the feds.

Councilor Witham stated his understanding is that the grant funds have not been officially received. He noted due to the price escalations there is a concern that the money they would be getting may not even be enough to fully construct the training tower.

Director Smith noted the projected number for the training tower they had used may only cover half of the cost to construct.

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Fire Station Building Committee**

Councilor Witham stated he wants this Fire Station project to be done well and correctly. He does not want to cut corners just to be able to construct the training tower, would prefer the overall structure is done correctly. The Committee held a brief discussion regarding the training tower and potential cost impacts.

Councilor Pepin asked what the status of the cost estimate for the training tower was, noted the second phase of the station was going to start soon.

Manager Belmore stated he will reach out to find out the status. Noted they may be able to re-purpose the money but would require additional approvals and could be a long process to get that approved at the Congress level.

Councilor Pepin stated his concern is if they are granted the money but it is not enough to construct the training tower, he does not want to go back to Council to ask for more money and also does not want to short change other portions of the station just to construct the training tower.

Councilor Witham stated he understands the change orders come up constantly during a large construction project like this. Stated he likes to see how the staff are procedurally reviewing these proposed changes and it appears to be a good process.

Councilor Pepin stated he would like to see the windows and lights and to see the cost fact of the entire list provided of change orders. Councilor Witham reminded the Committee that they had agreed to review change orders over \$50,000.

Robidas stated his concern is spending when they are only about 40% into the project.

Director Smith reported they have gone through seven change orders. He stated the total amount of change orders has increased the project cost by \$95,000 primarily through two change orders, one for the water line and the other for the exhaust system. The other change order items have been smaller and a plus or minus and ultimately washing out.

The Committee held a brief discussion regarding the exhaust system change order.

Manager Belmore stated this information was brought before the Committee to ensure that they felt the look of the building would remain in line with what was approved by Committee and Council with the proposed changes of the additional window and red-light globe additions to the main entrance to the administration side of the Station.

The Committee was in consensus to move forward with the windows and red globe lights pending the cost impact.

MISC.

No other business.

ADJOURN

Councilor Witham made a motion to adjourn. Robidas seconded the motion, the motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 3:48PM

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Crossley, Planning Secretary