

MINUTES of the Fire Station Building Committee  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
December 9, 2020 @ 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members present: Councilor Marty Pepin, Chair  
Councilor David Witham, Vice Chair  
Councilor Kenneth Vincent  
Paul Robidas, Citizen Representative

Administration/Staff present: Bob Belmore, City Manager  
Scott Smith, Deputy City Manager/Finance Director  
George Kramlinger, Fire Chief  
Mike Bobinsky, Public Works Director  
Jonathan Slaven, City Clerk

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**This meeting was called to order by Chairman Pepin at 8:36 a.m.**

APPROVE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 30, 2020

*Councilor Witham made a motion to approve the November 9, 2020 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robidas and passed 4-0 by roll call vote.*

DISCUSS CONSTRUCTION APPROACH

Manager Belmore updated the Committee on staff research on whether to have the Fire Department temporarily utilize the Highway Division site during construction of the new Fire Station. Benefits of doing so would include the fact that the site is a City owned parcel and may not require additional land purchase. Additionally, it would allow the contractor full access to the fire station construction site. Detriments to this approach include concerns with potential interruptions to the Highway Division's operations, interference with residents utilizing the recycling activities, and also not having the Fire Chief on site to have another pair of eyes at the construction site. Belmore mentioned that utilizing the high division site would also require a cost-benefit analysis before moving fire operations to this site as there would be project savings and additional costs to set up fire operations at the new temporary site, which would likely delay the Fire Station project by at least 3 to 6 months

Mr. Robidas, stated he had discussions with Councilor Vincent and Chief Kramlinger about seeking alternatives to find cost savings. He said he had not given a thought to potential disruptions to the Public Works operations; and if the City has to start multiple studies which would delay construction, he is inclined to support the two-phase construction approach. Councilor Vincent said he agrees with Mr. Robidas. He stated he wanted to make sure we were going to exhaust all efforts for saving money and speeding the process up and at least now we are able to say we sought alternative avenues. He apologized for any delays, but is glad we now have peace of mind for seeking alternatives.

Councilor Witham stated ideas like this need to be germinated earlier on in the project cycle. The idea of the two-phase construction while we operate had been the idea from the start and he is ready to move forward with this approach. Councilor Pepin stated that, during feasibility studies, we looked into multiple options during months of discussions and had already established from experts that the two-phase construction would be the better option.

**Councilor Witham moved that the Fire Station Building Committee endorse the two-phased construction approach by Port One Architecture. The vote passed 4-0 by roll call.**

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Councilor Pepin inquired about the plan for moving the fire apparatus. Chief Kramlinger said he has 3 pumpers; each in prime, reserve, and spare status respectively. He stated he is proposing to sell the spare, which is 20 years old. He further elaborated that the aerial ladder is also equipped with a pump and can act as an engine company. The Fire Department can get by without the third because of this. Chief Kramlinger said the old building will keep two bays operational and the new building will also have two bays. Councilor Witham informed the Committee that the two bays Chief is speaking of are accessible from the front and rear and are ideal for this situation.

#### ADJOURN

***A motion to adjourn was made by Citizen Representative Paul Robidas. The motion was seconded by Councilor Vincent and passed 4-0 by roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:56 a.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Slaven  
City Clerk