

MINUTES of the National Guard Building Reuse Commission
September 14, 2022 @ 12:00 p.m.

Committee Members present:	Councilor David A. Witham, Chairman Councilor Richard R. Michaud
Committee Members excused:	Councilor Matt Gerding
Staff Members present:	City Manager Bob Belmore Finance Director Scott Smith City Clerk Jonathan Slaven

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Witham at 12:09 p.m.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES, JANUARY 26, 2022

Councilor Michaud made a motion to approve the past minutes from January 26, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Witham and passed 2-0.

DISCUSS POSSIBLE INTERIM USE OF BUILDINGS

City Manager Belmore informed the Committee he had been approached by a few organizations requesting temporary use of the former National Guard building. He stated Father Andrew of St. Martins asked about the possibility of the use of space for storing some items should a future need arise. Mr. Matthew Hamilton of William Huff Moving and Storage has also asked about the possible use of storage space at this facility for about 9 months or so and is willing to pay and include a vacate clause given reasonable time. Manager Belmore also stated the Food Pantry is requesting to use space and would also like to undertake a few refurbishments at their cost. He stated that it was not clear whether the food pantry is requesting permanent space. Lastly, Fire Chief Kramlinger, would like to utilize space in the building for the Fire Departments annual Christmas toy drive program; this would be a location to distribute the toys to folks.

Councilor Witham said Council is far from knowing the final disposition of the facility and is okay with utilizing it in the meantime. He stated the storage options seem viable, but had concerns if the food pantry is looking to set up shop permanently. Manager Belmore stated that any refurbishments would be at the food pantry's expense and at the risk of only being able to use for a short time. Councilor Witham asked if there were any pitfalls to having the facility used for storage. Manager Belmore stated that utilities must be paid by those leasing space and the City would have to clarify other maintenance items such as plowing, liability of potential exposure to hazardous materials, damage, etc. This would need to be spelled out in any temporary lease agreement.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON NEXT STEPS

Councilor Witham suggested the Committee meet again to review the recently received consultant reports on future use and set a meeting date of Wednesday October 5th at 4:30pm. He asked staff to contact those requesting use of the facility to get clarification on their needs and plans for use.

ADJOURN

Councilor Michaud made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilor Witham and passed 2-0. The meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan Slaven, City Clerk

