

TOWN OF LISBON, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SPECIAL PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING  
REGARDING NEW FIRE STATION

1/14/2015

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Donald Butson (DB). Mary Lou Forsyth (MF)  
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE: Suze Tavernier

Officers of Fire and Life Squad: Greg Hartwell, George Stevens, Jeffrey Dodge, Dave Combs, Audrey Champgane, other members of both squads and members of the general public

DB Called meeting to order:6:15 pm

GS-Explained the history of the need for a new facility. The process started approximately 15 years ago. The Town purchased the "Old Parts Town Lot" in hopes to place new building there. The Department paid an Architect to design the new station, the designed presented was too expensive, over a million. There were issues designing due to flood plain. GS explained that at the last Hazardous Mitigation meeting it was discussed if the building was built on the "Parts Town Lot" in flood plain, there would be issues regarding flood insurance and would make ineligible for FEMA grants. With that in mind the Department was looking at a new property that just came on the market. He explained the new property could not only house the new Fire Station, it could also house the Town Offices as well. He spoke on purchasing the property this year and move forward with the fire station next year. That as long as the Department understood the Town was moving forward with the new facility and not putting on back burner again.

DB explained his concerns at this point so close to Town Meeting. He did not want to rush into something. We need to do it right. I want you to have a new facility, I understand the need. I am just concern there is not enough time.

JD Explained that in 2011 the Department worked with Presby Construction to come up with what is needed and best cost options. There was no promise made about giving contract just brain storming on what was needed. JD presented the plan.

GS stated there has been resistance in the past from prior Boards, or something came up and we were put off again. The current space has life and safety code concerns, the fumes, egress. The new property that came up seems like a fix for several of the current problems with the building.

MF asked if any new revenues could be generated from new building

GS stated the Town receives revenue from Lyman for fire service

*JK*  
*DFB*

DC stated the Town receives revenue from Lyman for life squad coverage as well as billing out for ambulance service. There is a revenue stream for ambulance service.

There was a discussion regarding consolidating fire service with other towns. GS explained surrounding towns are part of the mutual aid. There was a discussion with Landaff in the past regarding offering a fire service and it was not received well.

DB Explained the Town needs to find way to increase revenues, no one is pleased with tax rates and one thought was to subcontract services to cover other communities

GS Other than the current coverage of Lyman don't see a lot of opportunities for new revenue.

DC stated the Life squad has been requested to give quote to Landaff so there is the possibility of new revenue from that.

There was a discussion regarding the new property and ability to place fire station and town offices at the location.

There was support for the new location as opposed to the "Walter Young" property, concerns about size and flood zone issues.

DB stated agreed with all the points, just was not sure if there was enough time  
MF spoke about her concerns of using a 90 year old building.

A discussion about forming a committee and feasibility and the best way to move forward.

GS stated they have been down this road more than once, we have done the committees and studies and it keeps getting pushed off. We would like to make an offer on the new property for this year. Maybe move town offices, then next year come back next year for the new station. We are willing to work with you but we don't want to move backwards again.

DB we hear your concerns, we just want to do this right.

The Board thanked the group for coming and advised the Board would be taking up the discussion in next meeting.

MF made motion to adjourn DB 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted all