

**Board of Fire Commissioners**  
Greenfield Fire District  
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The January 17, 2024 Board of Fire Commissioners Special Meeting to discuss Porter Corners Co #2 expansion plans was called to order at the District Office by Chairman Michael Chandler at 5:34 PM.

**Present were:** Commissioners Chandler, Chouinard, Ellsworth, Etson, Russo; D/A-Treasurer Petkus. There were no others in attendance.

Lengthy discussion continued, including:

- CME Associates, Inc. proposal received for special inspections and structural testing services. Can also get quotes from Construction Technology in Round Lake and Terracon Consultants in Albany.
- Project bids came in at \$1.6 million
- There were no plumbing bids submitted.
- Commissioner Chandler noted that he does not feel the district can afford this without borrowing, and he does not want to do that.
- What are any additional costs to the district outside the scope of the renovations?
- Propane tank and retaining wall are additional costs, the new furnaces installed would be propane and the tank would go behind the generator.
- Co #2 goal was to move all the trucks out of the pole barn and into the firehouse. The pole barn would then go to district maintenance.
- Commissioner Etson questioned should the board consider a brick-and-mortar building? Can the board figure out how to give Co #2 a gear room some other way? Should the board talk about increasing taxes?
- The board should begin looking toward the future and putting a plan together.
- Other considerations are Co #4 water line and floor repairs that must be addressed.
- Focus should be on needs first.
- Building Reserve Fund currently has just under \$1.1 million with another \$270,000 to be added this year when tax revenues are received.
- Commissioner Ellsworth sat with the Chief and the truck committee and explained that it's time to pull the reins back and look at what the district currently has, and repair and properly maintain what we already have. He does not believe the district has the money to do the renovations, and suggested that the goal for the year should be to look at all the buildings and come up with a plan.
- Asking Munter Enterprises with guidance as to what is reasonable for Co #2.
- Possibly conducting a feasibility study of all buildings.
- Roof replacement was the choice of Co #2, but the roof shows no signs of leaking and the existing building is in good shape with no rust.
- As part of a long-term plan, would it be more feasible to build a whole new building?
- Could the board figure a way to give Co #2 a gear room, leave the pole barn as is, and put something behind the district office for district maintenance?
- Commissioner Etson questioned the conditions of the other firehouses and what would they need in the next 5 or 10 years. It was noted replacement windows at Co #3 will be needed and Co #4 floor repairs and water line.

- Commissioner Etson suggested finding a window and door company that can do long term maintenance; it was noted that O'Leary goes through and looks at the garage doors annually.
- Commissioner Chouinard questioned if the board rejected these bids, could they possibly look for a grant? It was explained that the grant writer can go for any kind of grant as long as there are plans and a goal.
- Consider having LaBella doing a feasibility study of Co #2, and also include all of the buildings.
- Commissioner Chouinard questioned if this project be a multi-phase project.
- Possibility, or probability of needing to go over the tax cap; importance of having written long term plans.
- Joyce to add bid decision vote to January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda.

Additionally, Commissioner Ellsworth noted the district truck committee is meeting this Saturday and he will be attending. Brief discussion continued.

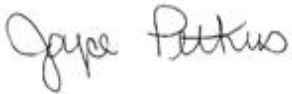
Discussion regarding the ladder truck and possible upcoming repairs vs. purchase price of Wilton's ladder truck. Board requested report on all costs associated with 293.

Commissioner Etson noted the Town of Greenfield adopted the County policy as it relates to the property tax break for volunteer firefighters. Brief discussion.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ellsworth with a second from Commissioner Chandler to dispense with the reading of the minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chandler with a second from Commissioner Chouinard to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 PM. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Joyce A. Petkus  
District Administrator/Treasurer