

# LONGMEADOW BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2018, 7:00 pm

## POLICE DEPARTMENT MEETING ROOM

Members Present - Marybeth Bergeron, Mary Beth Morris, Chris Cove, William Dierken, Jim Moulton

Members Absent - Peter Greenberg

Other Attendees: Steven Crane (Town Manager), Marie Angelides (Select Board), Marjorie Morgan (COA), Liz Bone (Charter Commission, Recycling Committee, Energy Taskforce), Gerry Nolet

1. Welcoming remarks – Marybeth Bergeron (MBB) called meeting to order.
2. Meeting Minutes - Jim Moulton (JM) motioned to approve minutes from last meeting and William Dierken (WD) seconded. Chris Cove (CC) wanted to be sure yellow highlighted section was correct and MBB confirmed. Minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Resident Comments
  - a. Liz Bone introduced herself and indicated that the energy taskforce wants to make sure town buildings are as green as possible. She invited us to reach out to the energy taskforce if guidance is needed. They want to work collaboratively with us. MBB welcomed her to come to future meetings of interest.
  - b. Gerry Nolet wants to hear next steps for adult center and direction of PBC.
  - c. Marie Angelides (MA) distributed a handout later in meeting about the Energy Committee goals and recommendations. She mentioned that all buildings are having energy audits completed. MBB asked PBC members to review and we can discuss at next meeting.
4. Discussion on Adult Center presentations - MBB recently emailed PBC members the revised cost estimate and photo showing gym with walking/running track suspended from ceiling, as well as plans showing dimensions of rooms (see attached pdf). Plans have not changed significantly.

MBB spoke with Jim Leyden (director of adult center) about a concern that cost estimate is higher than envisioned with proposed gym included. Jim mentioned that some activities that are done in Greenwood gym now will have conflicts with other programming if we

expect to do them all in multipurpose room and recommends constructing the new gym. JMM spoke to basketball groups who'd welcome a gym in town.

MBB asked Steven Crane (SC) what he thinks the PBC role is at this point. SC said a committee representative should go to Select Board and provide our recommendation, discussing the process and inviting questions. The Select Board will take the PBC recommendation under advisement. M Angelides emphasized that we need to determine what we want to ask of the board (i.e. either additional design funds or debt exclusion to include construction). We need 2/3 approval at town meeting followed by majority at Town election to advance the project.

PBC members provided their thoughts regarding advancing the project:

JM likes new plan and thinks we'll get more participation. Especially likes gym and walking track if we can fund (track is \$250k). We might want to design a more colonial looking building.

WD concurs with what JM said. Thinks our population of over 60 (30%) is strong argument to get project done. Thinks the town should consider what we'll do with existing space at Greenwood used as senior center and this could add cost.

Mary Beth Morris (MBM) is concerned with high cost when including the gym, and said we need be able to present to residents how this project impacts their taxes and why we cannot renovate the existing space at Greenwood. We also need to emphasize that the gym will be a community resource, not just for seniors. SC mentioned that Paul P is doing a budget update so we will know tax bill impact. MBB mentioned there is opportunity for fundraising and "buy a brick" programs but it won't happen until project approved. SC doesn't agree and thinks fundraising can begin now maybe with a mailer. WD thought getting letter out now and asking for money later once when it's approved is best approach.

CC believes it will be easy to get the project approved at town meeting. He mentioned that DPW project was very close at Town Election and that the committee had put a lot of effort with outreach, including yard signs, standing at polls, etc. SC said PBC should be concerned with building, not outreach. CC said we need finance committee on board for town meeting.

After discussion, there was a motion made by JM to accept the preliminary plans as presented by John Catlin and move forward to prepare draft warrant to present to SC and Select Board on Feb 5th for the full \$13.9M. The motion was seconded by WD and was approved unanimously. MBB will present with John Catlin.

5. DPW Update - SC said that the design team will present at next meeting. Permitting process is going well and the planning board hearing is on Feb 7. Prequal process has been completed for 13 general contractors and multiple subs. They are on schedule to advertise mid-February and are considering electronic bidding. MBB asked what Weston & Sampson thinks as to why we got so many contractors and SC said they lobbied contractors they know and this is a good time of year. SC visited Hopkinton DPW which is almost done and the team has continued to make some design changes. We don't need a pump station for fire suppression which saves money and we are getting close to the budget now.
6. Other pending projects - SC mentioned a few projects (community house wall, library windows, police station boiler) and said the capital plan was submitted. He also mentioned that the Middle School Statement Of Interest was denied (for state to fund 50%). School Committee will resubmit.
7. Next meeting date in 2-3 weeks - TBD (before Feb 23)
8. Adjournment. WD/JM moved to adjourn and it was approved unanimously.