



FIRE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING RE: Central Firehouse

- Meeting Minutes -

Fire Chiefs

Keith Brown
Anthony Fuller
Jeffery Lewis

Tuesday, **March 8, 2022, 5:30PM**

Committee Chairman

Misty Fuller

Committee Members

Maria Mann
Stanley Siegel
Timothy Simmons

Emergency Management

Thomas Vicchiariello

Call to Order: 5:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: Chief Brown, Chief Fuller, Chief Lewis, Tom Vicchiariello, Misty Fuller, Stanley Siegel, Mike Decker, Melissa Newhouser, Tim Simmons, Maria Mann, Regis Foster, Laura Quick, Valarie Maginsky, Deputy Chief Cicalese, and Past Chief Frank Fuller.

Chief Brown Supplied an Overview/Project Start Plan (Attached)

This plan will break the project into four (4), smaller sections:

Site Location:

- From 299 W. Main Street to 299 E. Main Street, we need to go 1.5 miles each way, which puts us in the general area of Pike Street. ISO bases their ratings on the 1st pumper being within 1.5 miles of any given incident. We need to maintain this general area to prevent a decline in our current ISO rating, which directly impacts insurance ratings on our citizens.
- Property Size is a challenge, we will likely have to build multiple stories which is more costly and will need to be ADA compliant.
- Estimated footprint of the building would need to be at least 150' x 200'.
- A needs assessment will determine the size of the location needed.
- We need to follow up with the Port Jervis School District regarding a trade for Sullivan Avenue property and the Advanced Oil property.

Funding:

- There are grants and sub-grants that can be applied for regarding construction, exhaust removal systems and de-contamination equipment.
- Cost-Sharing – if we include space for and Emergency Operations Center (EOC), they could possibly assist with funding.
- There is money available for energy efficiency, such as Green Roof, Solar, wind power, Geothermal. LEED Certification.
- ADA also will assist with funding for compliance, especially if we have any disabled members.
- We can also investigate source funding public and private.
- NYS Storm Relief Fund and the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery could be a possibility for funding.

Design:

- The needs assessment will also help determine design, after looking into current equipment and future needs. We should focus on a 50-year plan. What might our needs be in 50 years?
- We should visit other stations recently built and find out what worked and did not work for them: Pine Island, Nanuet, Picatinny and West Point Etc....
- Architect & Engineer Firms, there are firms that work specifically of fire and emergency service buildings.
- Seminars – there are yearly seminars that focus on station design, and funding.
- We should include training areas and props so that indoor training can occur year-round.
- EOC will need separate space for a command center for emergency management.

Reutilization:

- We can investigate repurposing current stations for another city use or selling them.

Other:

A central fire station would condense the diminished manpower and allow for cross training of members and help build comradery within the department.

Laura Quick suggested a feasibility study.

A prior study was completed a few years ago that outlined the needs of a department our size.

Our current ISO rating is three (3). The average volunteer department is four (4). A one (1) is the best ISO rating that can be achieved. This rating is calculated by evaluating multiple factors. Size of the area, water supply, amount of equipment, response times, number of businesses, hospitals, and senior/apartment housing etc....

To maintain our current ISO rating we must maintain four (4) engines. The fire department does have a document that outlines the number of apparatus/equipment that must be maintained. Our recent annexation may affect the ISO rating and those minimum requirements.

Public education is key to the reasoning and need. The public's buy in is key, on the modernization and cost savings.

A project manager is a must to oversee the project.

Appendix:

Insurance Services Office (ISO) – Your areas ISO fire rating determines how well your local fire department can protect your community and home. Insurance companies use the score to help set home/business insurance rates.

Adjourn at 6:30pm

We will communicate via email and meet bi-monthly as needed.