



Fire Station Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Twin Falls Council Overflow Room @ 4:00 P.M.

203 Main Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho

Committee Members Present: Bobby Charlton, Debbie Dane, Matt Morrison, LeRoy Harcourt, Todd Rambur, Tami Gooding, and Jim Olson.

Committee Members Absent: Chris Reid, Taenia Hudson

Facilitators: Fire Chief Les Kenworthy, Deputy City Manager Brian Pike

Staff: Fire Administrative Assistant Danielle Kolb, Help Desk Technician Kim Hafer

1) Confirmation of Quorum/Call Meeting to Order

Fire Chief Les Kenworthy called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

2) Consent Calendar

a.) Approval of meeting minutes from 11/27/2018.

3) Items for discussion

a.) Finalize and complete the final recommendation pieces for the City Council Presentation on Monday, December 17.

Chief Kenworthy - Want to organize the final recommendation piece tonight.

Talk and discuss the EMS Bay Space – Additional Sleep Space

If we have a natural disaster, or an ability to staff up additional personnel. Growth in building, always that need. We have been trying to be very conservative. Maybe we don't call it EMS Space – so we aren't dedicating it to just the EMS space.

Brian Pike – Mindful in the figure we present the community. Direction heading was removing it. But LeRoy brought up a really good point that the cost is very small for having the additional space. If we didn't label it EMS space. Additional room for apparatus, and 2 additional sleep rooms. Who knows what it looks like down the road?

Chief Kenworthy – Thoughts?

LeRoy Harcourt – Renaming it without having EMS in stations. Careful what we name it per the citizens. Needs to be very well thought out.

Brian Pike – This is an additional EMS Bay Space. We have already put space in these stations for EMS.

LeRoy Harcourt – You have talked to St. Luke's already? Correct?

Chief Kenworthy – We have had discussions. Starting the EMS study. Looking at different ways to partner. Looking at patient monitoring at home. The vision of where our EMS system is going and medical community needs could change and be different. It is out there and has been discussed to answer your question.

Matt Morrison – Look back to how EMS has changed from back when. Or how the laws are going to change, etc.

Brian Pike – We certainly do not have a problem leaving it the way that it is. It kind of makes sense. All are looking at it so we can serve our community and our residences. Think having the space available. But it makes sense to leave as EMS space.

Chief Kenworthy – It is in the documents and it has been published. I think in the discussion we at least or when we get those questions... I guess how do we explain that need for that extra space to the public or council when we are asked?

Brian Pike – I agree with what LeRoy is saying. I wouldn't want to be vague. I think we can have the conversation with the community that says just what the Chief described. We are in this process. I think St. Luke's is committed to providing the highest quality medical care they can at the most efficient price. We are all aware of escalating medical costs. I think we can have that conversation with the community that makes sense and if that means at some point as we build these stations Magic Valley Paramedics are housed in these stations, it would make sense.

Todd Rambur – Would Magic Valley Paramedics be charged rent for that space in the station?

Chief Kenworthy – Yes, that's what they currently do now at Rock Creek Fire Department. They pay a long term lease. And at some of the other facilities.

Don't always need a paramedic on all calls. This study will look at how can we best provide the response protocols and response plan, all the way to dispatch cause it starts there, what unit is supposed to go, if those things change, its going to change how we respond.

Matt Morrison – Twin Falls didn't used to run medical calls at all and now they do. Now we are becoming more and more involved in the medical emergency service. We are accounting for future growth and requirements

Chief Kenworthy – The Council is now very aware of that I know. We have some more work to do and more education to be done.

LeRoy Harcourt – It's truly projecting for the future, it's projecting for the unknowns, and it's easier to have it than not.

Matt Morrison – Do you really want an elevator in all your fire stations?

Brian Pike – It is required. It is an ADA requirement, if it's two stories you have to have them. We just went through this in the remodel at the Police Department. Had an older lift that functions and works, but it was a requirement to have one. Also, good for groups with disabilities they still have that access to the building. Mandated requirement working with Pivot North.

Chief Kenworthy – Any other questions on the EMS Space.

Chief Kenworthy – Dedicated schedule on construction on stations. Build all of the stations all at once. Not stair step them like the study suggests. Travis is concerned about the stair stepping or staggering and more about completing all fire station projects at once. Would like to know your thoughts on this? (Pg. 4 talks about schedule) That would be our desire is to do all the fire stations at once.

LeRoy Harcourt – As a builder. From what I hear from the proposal to do them all at one time, means you have 3 grounds crews. You want to simply everything, and get everyone on the same page, you have 3 different crews doing 3 different projects at the same time, and they aren't being advantageous on this and taking care of it then you're just going to make more work, more complications, and more setbacks. I am assuming the cities going to put out an RFP for this?

Brian Pike – Yes, we would. The city used the CMGC (Construction Manager/General Contractor) contract for city hall and public safety compound. We used Starr Corp and they were the project manager. That helped create a positive bid process. Similar to what the schools did on theirs. Be flexible in the process. Let's not lock into a schedule of building based on page 4. The CMGC process worked really well for the City, and don't think we would go away from that process.

The schools used the CMGC process as well.

It was a good partnership and interaction we had.

Chief Kenworthy – Looking for the flexibility in the recommendation.

Brian Pike – We would do an RFQ process. I'd imagine have a number of interested parties then go through a vetting process. In the future as we move forward we may come back to this group and ask individuals to help.

Chief Kenworthy – Any other questions or concerns? We do have it on the docket for Monday, December 17. I am going to open it up to Debbie if she has any questions for us.

Debbie Dane – Would like some guidance on presenting to council. How to do the introductions, committee, process we went through, how much detail, what do they expect, and questions, probably questions will be similar to what they were here?

Chief Kenworthy – We will all be there to back you up for sure. Will Pivot North be present?

Brian Pike – I can call Clint from Pivot North and see if he can be present, or maybe be on the phone. I'm sure he'd be more than happy to be here. I think you start with general introduction, introduce the committee, talk about the process, what processes you've worked through, that's important, because you're not only talking to the council you're also talking to the community about the process. Then when it comes to the recommendation, I think the recommendation is pretty straight forward. Here's the process we went through, here is the recommendation. It won't be the first time for the council to hear it, I think they are familiar with it. They have had time to look it over.

LeRoy Harcourt – Does Debbie need to start with where we started with the \$45 million? How we took out Station 5? Where we came to? Or is this just the proposal of 1, 2, and 3?

Brian Pike – I think you can do that. It might be wise. Because as we go forward we know we will build a Station 5, we just don't know when. We have the land. Then if we come back to the community down the road it's not a surprise.

Jim Olson – The response time when you move Station 2. Need to have it down. If it's not a question with the council, I think it will be a question when we have an open house. What it was before? What it is now?

Brian Pike – Talking to a couple firefighters about this. Can do study on this so we can be ready. Washington to Pole Line is believed to be a faster route than Falls. Because you have the ability to move.

Todd Rambur – Also, might want to know how much it is going to cost people a month. Think we need to know this, because we might get asked.

Brian Pike – We might look at in the recommendation tonight on what you think. On how many years, for the bond. For the recommendation to council. Really liked what Lorie said with the 20 year, because it can save our citizens 6 million dollars.

LeRoy Harcourt – Education of the community. If you haven't used the service you don't know. If you have used the service then you do. Looking at the amount you'll have to pay in taxes, I think it's a no brainer.

Todd Rambur – I have already been told I will not vote yes to this, because my taxes have already been raised.

Debbie Dane – Everyone can make an argument to the public.

Brian Pike – When it comes to public safety you hope you never have to call the police department, or the fire department, or paramedics, but if you do.

LeRoy Harcourt – Building costs are going to escalate.

Chief Kenworthy – We definitely have to get out and educate. It's like an insurance policy. But having that insurance policy when you do need it, that's where the rubber hits the road. It is difficult to do unless you've experienced them you really don't understand them.

Debbie Dane – People would be frankly surprised at the number of, the small number of people we rely on for fire service on a daily basis. The biggest eye opener was the conditions that our firefighters live in while they are on duty, like the small bed at station 3. We need them to have their sleep.

Brian Pike – I think those insights are really powerful and I think it's ok to share those insights. That's what makes this committee so powerful. As we move forward, the Chief and I, it's been rewarding to see and watch your interaction and it reinforces the direction of where we are going.

Jim Olson – The equipment that stays outside that should be used day to day. That could affect response time.

Bobby Charlton – Thinks that's a good point. If we have a big fire and the trucks are not full of water and prepared. This equipment needs to be inside where they can stay full of water, so they are prepared.

Debbie Dane – For areas like Hidden Lakes communities. To help mitigate.

Chief Kenworthy – These are general issues that our fire department faces. One of my jobs here, that I've been tasked with by my bosses is to look at other ways because of our limited staffing levels, how can we achieve, for example we have a commercial fire, we don't have enough people on duty to fight a commercial fire. What we are trying to do is figure out how we can do that? We have call back, so we can call our off duty people back, but we are working really hard to work more closely with our mutual aid. Which is different for the way we do business here. It's a change of mindset a little bit. Need to look at EMS in a more efficient way. The best job we can with the resources we have. Fire Stations is a component of that. Like Jim talks about location. Where the fire stations are. There is some study and more in depth work that I need to do as your new Fire Chief to develop what those response guidelines look like and take to the council and ask the question to the community, what is your expectation for EMS? What's the response time? What's acceptable for a response time for an ambulance or fire truck to get to a scene in our community? Etc.? This is some of the work I am working on and going to be looking at with this EMS study. That's some of those questions that starts driving what is the need, where do we build these fire stations, how much staffing do we need to add, how do we do that, what's the community expectations, what are they willing to pay for, and how important it is to them? The person who's having that stroke or having that heart attack, or in that car accident. What value do you put on it when you're paying that tax?

Tami Gooding – I have used it, and I know what it looks like, and would pay double for it.

Debbie Dane – What is the turnout time of call?

Chief Kenworthy – What we shoot for is just an average. Is about a minute in a half.

- 90 seconds for EMS. - 2 minutes for a fire call for putting on turnouts.

Jim Olson – How many females have you had apply for firefighter position? (3) 1 is still in the mix. We have to remember this is going to happen sometime in future.

Debbie Dane – Thinks about the living conditions – like the Guppies fire/with Asbestos downtown/etc. The hazards of the job.

Brian Pike – Pivot North put together some bullet points of the deficiencies of the existing Twin Falls Fire Stations. Anything you need/on easels. Let us know. We haven't put a time frame into the agenda yet. Realistically you'll probably have about 20 minutes and then time for questions. You're going to have the council's full attention. Agenda is light that evening, but this is the main item on agenda.

Debbie Dane – (Important things) on Formatting Presentation

- Council is reacquainted with the committee – Introduce everyone.
- The process – The tours of all the fire stations and the eye openers that we had.
- First night with the Crash Course on Fire 101 and looking at the map of stations, and here are the actual calls.
- Then the tour in Boise of an actual Modern Fire Station – Help firefighters do their jobs.
- Then current old stations – 1960's, 1970's. Haven't invested in infrastructure.

- Go to the ask, and then what we are recommending to council. The \$35,404,000.00. The 20 and the 25 year. The savings that Lorie Race pointed out to us and then with the flexible building schedule.
- Do a rough draft with everyone.

Chief Kenworthy - If there is a key component you want to show to all the council like (PowerPoint)

Bobby Charlton – Maybe an easel on the way into the council chambers.

Tami Gooding – I’ve been here since 1979, it is so much different now. It needs to be addressed that we have moved on we are now into a new century.

Jim Olson – Look how long it has lasted though. These may not last as long, but 30 – 40 years.

Brian Pike – I think that’s a great point to. The question will come up right, well why can’t you remodel Station 2. Until you’re are in Station 2 and you see 2. When Station 2 was built in the 60’s and fire science has progressed to this point. To actually make that station work for the safety and efficiency of our firefighters and their teams, and by the time you do all these things, you are really building a new fire station.

Todd Rambur – I don’t think it would hurt to have someone else speak at the meeting, in addition to Debbie.

LeRoy Harcourt – I’d say educate but don’t over educate. Maybe don’t over speak.

Brian Pike – As the council asks questions we can open it up to the committee. As different thoughts happen, it’s perfectly acceptable for all of the committee.

Jim Olson – Thinks the question might come up about the location of Station 1. What general area? Question may come up, maybe not just from the council, but from the businesses or the community.

Chief Kenworthy – Council is looking for a recommendation from this group on how we proceed. What is the bond amount? What is this going to cost the voter? How did you come to the decision? What are you recommending? Key points are important. Training Components. Those key points you want to point out and make comments, like Todd said having other members stand up is perfectly fine.

Brian Pike – The council has entrusted this committee to come back before it and make a recommendation, then they take it and they own it. The decision that the council ultimately makes. The process is designed for you to bring them a recommendation and I think they will take that recommendation obviously seriously it means a lot to them. That’s why they took the steps to form the committee in the first place.

Chief Kenworthy – Debbie one thing I heard you say is once you have this formulated it sounds like you’d like to do a trial run on this.

Debbie Dane – My thought process on this, maybe, send to Danielle, or Brian/Chief, have committee look at it and see what was missed, or what would have more impact. Get ideas from the group/etc.

Brian Pike – One of the problems with email is that you actually can’t email each other back and forth it. Everything you do has to be done in public. But, you can comment individually, say to the Chief then he can share your comments with Debbie. Just remember you can’t have a group email conversation. It’s just part of the public meeting.

Debbie Dane – Maybe you can speak on remodeling verses building.

Do I bring up the fact that we want the May election and not the November election?

Brian Pike – Council is aware of the May election.

Todd Rambur – Who is it directed to? You or Debbie?

Brian Pike – It’s impossible to know what questions are going to come. We will all be there to help. We can get back to them if we don’t know the answer.

Chief Kenworthy – We will be there to support you and help with any questions. We will formulate how we are going to open it. Travis will be there, he may be asked questions, or be asked for feedback.

Bobby Charlton – Might be late on asking this question. Of the Fire Departments/stations have they undergone any seismic upgrades or building remodels.

LeRoy Harcourt – There's really no way to implement seismic upgrades into it, just by the codes I know.

Bobby Charlton – Just by someone bringing up the point that it would be better off, upgrading or remodeling.

Brian Pike – I can find out. I don't know. I can ask Pivot North, they'll be able to model and know what is required.

Bobby Charlton – If you were to remodel any of these stations, the electrical would have to be brought up to current code. Walking through I didn't see a whole lot of stuff that was really current. I'm just looking for something that's a force. We have to do kind of deal. That was the question.

Chief Kenworthy – Any other comments, or anything Debbie from your prospective?

Brian Pike – Just want to say thank you, it's been a privilege working with you. I know that we are just getting started through this phase of the process. It's been really good to have your input, and your insights, I appreciate your time, it takes a lot and I know we've been pushing hard the last couple of weeks. But, I just want to say thank you.

Chief Kenworthy – I would echo the same and just say thank you to our Admin Assistant, Danielle, she's been awesome through this process for me. She's done a great job!

Matt Morrison – Is Pivot North going to be building scale models of the Fire Stations?

Brian Pike – No, they'll be some concept designs. But they won't do a scale designs. They will do some drawings for us as we move forward.

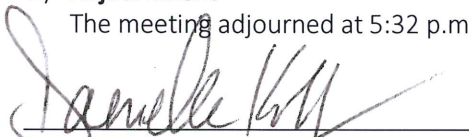
Chief Kenworthy – If there is anything you need for your presentation, from pictures/etc. IT department can help, Danielle can help, and if there is anything at all you need. Let us know. As you move on from here on out. From the educational pieces we are here to help. Just let any of us know. Thank you!

b.) **Upcoming Meeting(s)**

a.) Monday, December 17, 2018 @ 5:00 p.m.

c.) **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.



Danielle Kolb, Administrative Assistant