

CITY OF BURTON
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 19, 2008, 6:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS
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The Special Meeting was called to order by Council President Tom Martinbianco at 6:10 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Haskins, Tinnin, Martinbianco, Conley, Ellenburg and Heffner.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wells.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor C. Smiley, D. Halstead, Fire Chief, K. Gould, Deputy Fire Chief, and J. Adams, Deputy City Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Discussion and possible action regarding the new Fire Station.

PRESENTATION:

Chief Halstead introduced Jeff Bennett and George Ananich from THA Architects. He stated they will do a presentation to show the stations, renovations and what they consist of.

Mr. Bennett stated he has been working with administration for over a year now. Fire Station #2 on Belsay Rd. will be replaced with a new fire station. Fire Stations 1 and 3 will have improvements and minor expansion.

Mr. Ananich indicated Station #1 will have a 250 square foot addition to the west side of the building. It will not disrupt parking or traffic flow through there. Items planned are a new ceiling, lights, upgrades to 2 bathrooms, conference room, a meeting room combined with the kitchen, and a lot more storage along the north walls. There is capacity of about 30 people.

Mr. Ananich stated with Station #3, there is a small addition on the east side that will be less than 200 square feet. They are opening up the meeting room and there is capacity of 15 to 20 people. There will be new cabinetry and a new roof.

Discussion ensued concerning widening the bay. Mr. Halstead it would push the west wall outward and adding a center pillar. Mr. Bennett said they can look at that and with replacing the roof, this would be a good time to do it.

Mrs. Tinnin asked if there have been any accidents due to the narrow bays.

Chief Halstead said not that he knows of. We've had accidents at the other stations with the big bay.

Mrs. Tinnin said she doesn't foresee a lot of different renovations in the future once this bond goes into effect.

Chief Halstead said he believes if the economy swings back the way it should, at some point the City will have to look at a new Fire Station #3 with full time people, depending upon population and the quantity of fires. Station #3 would not in any way, even with renovations, serve for a full time fire crew. Putting a lot of money into it did not make sense to me. I wanted to make it livable and adequate for the crews.

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Mr. Bennett spoke at length regarding Station #2 and presented drawings. He stated they were the architects for the new Vienna Township Fire Station and they really like the way the plan worked for them. For Fire Station #2 they will keep the existing fire station in place while they construct the new fire station. We don't want to tear down the old fire station until the new one is complete. The playground area will not get touched. We've opened things up and will provide access to the playground area. We will make available some of the bathrooms during certain hours.

Mr. Bennett addressed further additional parking and use of the alleyway. He said they are trying to maximize the use of that site. This will be a state-of-the-art facility. The structure will have a total of 5 bays, offices, dispatch area, lots of storage and equipment space, conference areas, kitchen facility, two mezzanine areas, locker room, open space for future use, and many other important features.

Mr. Martinbianco inquired concerning the land acquisition of the property on Martha.

Mr. Halstead said the property involves 2 parcels. The parcel the house sets on and a vacant lot to the south. They are proposing to pay \$89,000 for the property.

Brief discussion ensued concerning a decontamination bay according to the new MIOSHA specifications. Chief Halstead also noted that that MIOSHA inspected all stations and there were no violations. We did have to move equipment that was being stored on the wall and that was taken care of.

Mr. Haskins expressed the proposed new station looks beautiful, the Chief and everyone involved did a great job and he is excited for the guys.

The subject of widening a bay at Station #3 was addressed again. Mr. Bennett said they could extend the beams out and give 2 more feet on each side. A decontamination bay was discussed and Mr. Bennett and Chief Halstead both assured that this issue will be looked at further and to make sure they will not be in violation.

Mrs. Ellenburg mentioned cost saving lighting that could be used in the facilities. Chief Halstead said they are taking measures with lights that go off automatically as well as other things to help save on the amount of usage and costs.

Chief Halstead stated he would like to see Council give their approval of selling the bonds to further start this project. The total cost construction of the facility itself along with items such as stove, refrigerator, sinks, etc., is \$3,115,590. The actual construction costs have gone up since we originally started this.

Mr. Bennett said costs have gone up \$80,000; \$40,000 is from construction costs rising and the other \$40,000 is from building in the winter and using cold weather protection methods. Improvements to the other stations went up \$9,000.

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Chief Halstead said he requests they bond for enough money to purchase the furnishings, desks, chairs, etc. that would be necessary to make the station work rather than come back and try to figure out how to buy them.

Mr. Martinbianco said he would like to speak with Mrs. Foster prior to the time we make that inclusion because we don't have cost estimates yet on any of that as well.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Rick Fuhst, 1208 S. Genesee, spoke regarding saving on heating and air conditioning costs.

John Stapish, PO Box 190135, Burton, questioned the 11.5 million dollar bond cost and if there would be new fire trucks.

Ken Baker, 1133 Forest, expressed that fire trucks have about a 20 year life span. Fire trucks will be an expense coming down the road when you look at the amount of runs they have made. Fire Station #3 in the late 1970s to early 1980s was a converted gas station. A long time has gone by and it served its purpose. Station #2 was dedicated in 1947 and has been there for 60 plus years and has done its job. It does cost a lot of money and he understands the concerns. We are building for the future. He has been at that station for 28 years, the time has come to build something that the people in the future will be proud of what we do.

Don Sanderlin, 4460 Killarney Park, spoke regarding an open house for everyone to see the stations.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Haskins stated the fire departments have an open house in October every year for Fire Protection Week. All the stations are open to the public. They give away smoke detectors and do a variety of things to get the community involved.

Mrs. Ellenburg addressed Mr. Baker and stated she is very proud he has been at Station #2 for 28 years and he is representing the City of Burton. She has been at Station #2 and can see they are really in need of a new station. This is something our whole City will be proud of.

Mrs. Tinnin stated the intent to sell the bonds is already done. As far as action taking place it is just a matter of bringing the figures together.

Mr. Martinbianco said he is not prepared to act on this tonight but will probably be in that position in a couple of weeks.

Mrs. Tinnin acknowledged they will have Mrs. Foster present at tomorrow night's meeting and we can see what money is available for furniture, fixtures and other necessities to be included.

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Mr. Martinbianco said with final budget amendments we would be able to have a clearer picture of where we are going to be at financially and whatever additions may need to be on, and incorporate that as part of our June 2nd meeting agenda. The next process would be to enter into a contract with THA and get that solidified.

Chief Halstead said the blessing of the Council means a great deal. We want the public to see what is going on. This building belongs to the City.

Mr. Martinbianco thanked Mr. Benett and Mr. Ananich for their presentation. He said Mr. Sanderlin's idea for an open house to the public at Fire Station #2 to see the renderings maybe a good idea to look into.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

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