

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
Finance Committee
January 21,2020

6:00 Meeting called to order .

Attending : Jan Carr, Ken Gilbert, Ned Wolf, Kathy Inman

Meeting minutes reviewed for Jan 14 and approved, Ken made the motion, seconded by Ned.
Fin Com joined BOS Building Facilities committee for Presentation

Recommending pending state funding of 1 million dollars and zoning appeal by building committee:

We spend \$ 500,000 to 700,000 to add on to building to build 4 bay fire garage with the understanding that the monies can be used to repair the roof because administrative part of the fire department will be housed in 18 Jacobs.

Later discussed whether building should be a separate building from the current building on 18 Jacobs, Post office up in the air, not sure of the location for that, the committee plans to vacate both buildings in the center of town.

Zoning appeal necessary because a new structure may be considered to be a principal building, and the 18 Jacobs Rd. property lot cannot be subdivided.

May appeal to ZBA to build an additional building on the property.

State funding unclear. Bond may be available, which does not need to be paid back. Bond authorization, not a grant according to Bill Gran. There is not a million dollar grantor bond out there, nor is there a specific plan for money available . There is a state wide evaluation of need coming up. We might know something a year from now – Paul Mark said that if we have a plan, we should present it. BOS needs to decide if we should move forward with this plan and need shovel ready plan in order to apply for grants/ bonds.

Need to know if we can get answer about zoning or special permit – and we know where we want to put the building, and come up with a drawing – that is a plan.

Have to prove what we can do with that amount of money. Brian asked about type of building but Jim could not remember the name of the building.

Question if information on state funding will be available by March 15 deadline suggested by the BOS?

Gloria wants to see all costs for all buildings, study, recommendations, renovation costs etc.

Current costs for running 18 Jacobs road at a partial use rate: \$47,000 cost for 6 months.

\$5,800 in payment for insurance the town is getting back from insurance company in the form of a credit.

Current tax rate: \$22.25, for FY 20. 10 years ago it was \$16/thousand.

Tax rate has been higher in the past – has been up to 25.

Last bridge in town to be fixed - is the one on 8A before 18 Jacobs Rd.

Concern that if that bridge failed and EOC was located at 18 Jacobs Rd. it would be difficult to access the center of town.

Building Repairs needed: BOS given list of things that need to be repaired in all buildings. Gary asked if that information is available. Information has been given to Hilma. Robyn said that she wanted to expand it to add pricing.

Bill asked about role of energy committee. Meeting needs to be called. No chairman has been identified, Hilma thought that Bill Lattrell would take over chair and that while he is recovering, Steve Thane would take over. That group has not been meeting.

Return to Fin Com for further discussion

Discussion of total costs of 18 Jacobs Rd so far this year :

Ken has 49,932 plus Custodian health insurance and FICA .

Concerns with new plans: Historic commission should discuss with state about reaction of selling buildings that are given a historic designation.

Can children be allowed in a public safety complex.

Can you have a public building so close to an emergency center.

Ken asking about tracking revenue from Jacobs Rd – what account it goes into so it can be tracked, how much has been collected so far this year to determine offsets for building expenses.

Change of building usage and sprinkler system have not yet been addressed.

Full use projections from last year: average \$113,000/ yr

Partial use projections: \$72,000.

Electricity is up by 26% in total cost.

Solid waste: Cost of 93.50 per ton for transportation for Heath recyclables. That would come out to \$6,200 that Heath would have to pay in Fiscal 21.

Fin Com will meet on Monday in Sawyer Hall. Ned will post.

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 by Jan seconded by Ken unanimously approved.

Adjourned 7:50

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Inman