

Berkshire Fire District
March 10, 2010
Building Information Meeting

Members Present: R. Ceurter, P. Davis, D. Liddington, and D. R. Liddington
Others present: See attached sheet

R. Ceurter called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM and turned it over to B. Welch.
Handouts were distributed containing a drawing/tax impact.

Discussions were held on the following:

- Drawings – Hoping to increase the truck bay to 60’.
- Replacement of appliances in the kitchen – not able to as of yet to keep cost down. Auxiliary and Fire department may have funds to help with this and the auxiliary has been doing fund raisers.
- Vote is only for \$800,000 it cost cannot exceed that amount.
- No construction company is set to building this building like rumors are saying
- No money has been spent as of yet
- If the vote passes then an architect would be hired.
- A wood frame structure is cheaper than steel and have had 50 year guarantee with 30/40 years on siding/roof and 100% guarantee for 5 years and 2 years top to bottom.
- In floor heating with 2 to 3 separate zones.
- Flooring/walls – tile/sheet rock
- Municipalities have to pay prevailing wages
- Wood frame buildings are easier to insulate and heat
- Questions regarding codes – Clerk of the works will be hired by the District
- NYSERDA is the district eligible
- Roof – metal with snow catchers

Concerns from the audience:

- What’s the big rush? So the building could be ready by the end of Nov.
- There is not an architect hired at this time.
- Cost of materials.
- Mechanical room being too small
- In floor heating in meeting area takes a while to warm up. Heating system can be revisited.
- The library’s concern is when the current building is being demolished and heavy equipment being on the septic system at the library.

If the building is passed and the whole \$800,000 is to be borrowed the tax rate is estimated to increase by \$.6887 per \$1,000 of assessed value if the project is financed for 30 years at a 3.5% interest rate.

A grant from USDA is being pursued.

The public had a concern about not having specs and not knowing what exactly they would be voting on.

The official public hearing will be held on April 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. and the referendum will be up for vote on April 6, 2010 from 12:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Case, Secretary