

# **Board of Fire Commissioners**

Greenfield Fire District  
P.O. Box 103  
Greenfield Center, NY 12833

## **Workshop with Butler, Rowland and Mays, Architects– April 24, 2007**

Time: 7:00 pm

Present were: Commissioners Kugler, Robarge, Spackmann, Waite; Secretary Petkus, Richard Butler and Carl Schoder.

Commissioner Robarge noted that the meeting was to discuss some issues regarding Co #1 and Co #2, as well as to figure out how much is owed, etc.

Dick Butler began by saying that if he dropped the ball he apologizes. He didn't think he over billed the District, that he obviously misread something. Commissioner Spackmann didn't think it was a matter of anyone dropping the ball; this was an exploratory process on the District's end as well. Mr. Butler had an agenda and would be sending out minutes to this meeting as well.

Mr. Butler noted he called Rick Stevens to review his notes, and he and Carl did the same thing before coming over here. They will set up a time to look at both stations again before doing their final report. Talked about doing a report for our constituents, but Commissioner Spackmann felt they didn't need anything drastic; a letter might suffice as well.

Mr. Butler said that Mr. Schoder would be doing a structural report on Porter Corners, which won't be all that involved, but Greenfield will be a bit more involved.

Commissioner Kugler asked several questions regarding this particular section of Co #1, including the roof, which is a major problem. As far as Co #2, he'd like a report to include where we stand with that building right now, any major structural problems, will it last another 20 years, etc. Commissioner Robarge asked if it would be possible to expand that, or to replace. Mr. Butler noted there were a number of code issues, as well as structural issues, and that the topography around the firehouse does not lend itself to expansion. Commissioner Waite noted that fill has been put in since the last time Mr. Butler was there because they are planning to put a pole barn up in that area.

Mr. Butler clarified that the money to do anything of a significant nature is a few years down the road; the Commissioners confirmed this.

Commissioner Spackmann addressed the issue of a possible design flaw issue at Co #1. Lengthy discussion continued. Mr. Butler noted that because of no documentation of shop drawings of what was supplied here, it is hard to know the structural capability of this building. Mr. Schoder added that one of the things they can't give us is a thorough engineering assessment at this juncture because of that. Commissioner Kugler noted that name of the contractor was Joe Poppa, whose office was on Albany-Shaker Road. If they could get their hands on the drawings, it would help a lot.

Commissioner Kugler and Secretary Petkus went to the storage room to see if they could find that information; it was found a copy given to Mr. Butler.

Mr. Butler noted there have always been two main issues: the main roof issues of this building and the potential or perceived need by some that you need a bigger facility here. They did point out early on that if they were ever to add on to this building, the roof and the add-on are so interrelated regarding the issues that we face, that it does not make sense to attack them separately. Mr. Butler added that making the connection and building over the existing roof, they think that they need to avoid doing that because of all the structural issues that that implies. What would be possible is to make a small link like a vestibule. Would be difficult to give a price, but could apply numbers to certain areas and every year that goes by there is an escalation figure. Could come up with a concept plan. Mr. Schoder noted that the bay area building is doing the job that they wanted it to do, other than the weatherization thing, which he said you could get to, it is a skin issue. The structure seems like it is in good shape, the floor looked good, the block work looked good, it would be a shame to rip that part down, as any mistakes that happened, happened in the office area. May just need to re-skin the building; makes it look like a new building but it's not. More discussion followed, including what effect snow has had on the building.

Mr. Schoder noted that they may have to make some recommendations that may be hard to swallow, like the brick work issue. Mr. Schoder also noted in regard to Porter Corners, in certain ways it is almost a tougher one to call mainly because the Board is trying to make a decision on a 10 or 20 year horizon and the fact that the building has been around a while, although it's still in fairly good shape. There are some issues with reframing and settlement, which is probably speaking to the sub base. Mr. Butler and Mr. Schoder discussed coming to look at the buildings in the next few weeks and then Mr. Schoder left for the evening.

Another issue discussed was the HVAC. Commissioner Robarge noted that it's cold in one room but hot in another, the whole schematic of the heating system is terrible. Short discussion followed, including the temperature differences in different parts of the building, the complaints that they are constantly running out of oil, etc. Mr. Butler noted that if they do a whole new wing, you are going to have a new system anyway. Noted that out in the bay, they probably keep it cool anyway.

Mr. Butler also noted that in the time he's been sitting here, he's not heard one thing about the growth of Greenfield and that could be a selling point. Mr. Butler also added that a tentative completion date for a report would be sometime in June or July. Commissioner Spackmann asked about the cost; Commissioner Robarge referenced the letter regarding the outstanding bill of \$2275.00. The overall agreement was \$22,750 with an addition of \$2957 for Porter Corners. Mr. Butler noted there were three components to this, the third being the generator issue. The total bill comes to \$25,707.00. Commissioner Kugler noted that they would have to do another permission referendum to cover the amount. Secretary Petkus noted that she didn't think the Treasurer had that bill; it would need to go to the Treasurer. Mr. Butler noted there would be several more bills as they bill on a monthly basis. Secretary Petkus to check the permissive referendum, the current bill to be paid at the next Commissioners meeting.

Mr. Butler also informed the Board that his partners, Steve and Paul, are now the full partners in the firm, and he just consults to the firm. Mr. Butler also returned a set of Porters prints to Commissioner Waite. Commissioner Robarge asked Secretary Petkus how much we had paid to BRM; she noted she would have to ask the Treasurer about that. Mr. Butler left at 8:35 pm.

Miscellaneous:

- Commissioner Robarge asked Secretary Petkus to call Type Techniques to get the training requisition forms, which she said she would take care of.
- Secretary Petkus explained about the physicals and the meeting she and Commissioner Kugler had with Dr. Peacock. Discussion was held regarding EKG's and it was decided that all interior firefighters would get an EKG every year. Other discussion about random drug testing, stress tests was also held. Secretary Petkus asked what to do about Paul Coneski. After some discussion, it was determined that Secretary Petkus would see if Dr. Peacock would do both his physical and medical clearance at the same visit, and Secretary Petkus was to come up with a short return to duty form.
- Fourth nozzle was found, has gone out to the factory to be looked at, the estimate came back at \$280.00. A new one like it is \$680. Commissioner Kugler spoke to Jay the other night and he would like to have the nozzle fixed as a spare. Noted that Commissioner Spackmann and King were okay with it so Commissioner Kugler called Garrison to have them fix it.
- Commissioner Kugler explained to Commissioner Waite an idea he and P/A Howe put together regarding the radios and pagers, and how to keep track of, and inventory them by using a triplicate form. Discussion followed.
- Commissioner Kugler noted there was another problem with Garrison regarding the cutter blades to Maple Avenue's jaws. Garrison billed us \$816, which was paid. The problem was, they never charged us for the labor of \$175.44, and Chet called Jill wanting to know why they never paid the labor, but Garrison just added it to the bottom of the original bill AFTER they realized they had never put it on the bill in the first place. Commissioner Kugler spoke to Pat Garrison about it, and let them know that their bookkeeping is a lot to be desired.

Workshop was adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Petkus  
District Secretary