

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH

Tuesday, June 19, 2017 – 5:00pm
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Barbara Miller, Ed Juengst, Tyler Ward

Also Present: Rodney Bartlett, Brenda Fox Howard, Nicole MacStay, Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla, Corinne Chronopolous, Ron McIntyre, Marcia Patten, Tina Kriebel

Chair Ward called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Ms. Chronopolous explained the history of the timeline for the projected Peterborough Library Project. She said that many have asked why there might be a need for a new library. She explained that she wanted to create a space for people to collaborate, using technology and connecting people to each other and to ideas. The new library would be key to helping achieve the Master Plan vision. A small business conference center would be included for up to 120 people, as well as small meeting rooms. She explained the vision of creating access to new concepts and technology for education and learning and that this should be a place for hands-on learning for families. The Maker Movement has had a large impact on hands-on learning. Ms. Miller asked how the current makerspace would be involved. Ms. Chronopolous said that the current one is for people 18+ years old. This would incorporate all ages. She added that this venue would create revenue. Event attendance at the library would have significant economic impacts for the downtown Peterborough economy.

She stressed accessibility, showing that most of the current entrances have stairs and the ramp is not ADA compliant. The fire alarm system at the end of its service life. The electrical system needs to be updated to reflect current requirements, the heating system is inadequate, air quality is poor, and there are not enough data or electricity outlets in the building and are not properly located. Thousands of volunteer hours have been invested in this project, architectural fees, purchase of the Fairpoint land parcel, pre-construction management fees, and capital campaign expenses. She showed the timeline of the history of work that has been done in working toward this project including grants that were received and pending grants.

She continued to show a visual presentation of what the library would look like. Highlights include bringing the building down to the street level with large windows along Concord Street, back entrance ADA compliant, providing a hospitality area, a teen area, quiet reading space, art gallery, large meeting space, media arts room, children's area, and outdoor space for rentals.

She invited the rest of the committee to comment collaboratively about the budget. Ms. Kriebel said that construction costs have been impacted and have increased since the original budget was proposed. Construction costs are estimated at 6.5 million, soft costs/project costs at 8.5 million. Every year there is a 4-5% escalation in cost. Ms. Chronopolous explained that different options were considered that would be less expensive, but showed that those options would lead to a building smaller than the existing one. She moved onto the campaign and the roadmap to achieving the funding for this project. After doing feasibility studies, they project the ability to raise 5.5 million and would be looking to the town for the remaining 3 million dollars. Mr. Ward commented on his support of the new library concept, but also the infrastructure needed in town, and the recent 10% increase in our taxes due to CIP needs. Ms. Miller asked if a 40 year bond could be obtained instead of the usual 20 year bond. Mr. Bartlett responded we are beginning to bond projects longer than the actual life of the project, which leaves us unable to bond other needed projects in the future. He explained the potential needs for capital improvement projects like a new highway garage and new fire station which will be presented in the future.

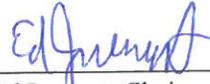
Mr. Juengst expressed his support but also commented on the Capital Improvement Plan that was recently distributed, and the challenges with the current and potential projects. Ms. MacStay stated that this project has not been re-introduced to the public with the new figures and with the reeducation that has to happen, she is concerned about the public process that needs to be followed, and concerned with what could go

wrong with a compressed timeline. She recommended public meetings, getting feedback from public, go through CIP and the formal budget process. Ms. Chronopolous responded that since the public library is a public service, they do get quite a bit of feedback from the public.

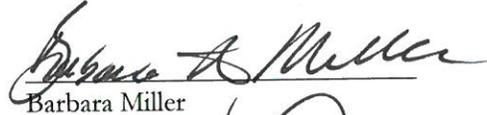
As there was no more business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla, Department Assistant

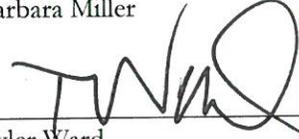
PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:



Ed Juengst, Chair



Barbara Miller



Tyler Ward