Town Facilities Review Committee

June 3, 2021, 7 p.m. Northfield Firehouse

Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman Sam Olmstead, Matt Blasavage (arrived at 7:20), Dave Carroll, Chris Casiello, Anne Haas, Marc Moura.
Members Absent: Bill Deacon, John Morosani, Jeffrey Zullo.
Alternates present: Burke Gibney, Recording Secretary Barbara Putnam
Others absent: Bantam Borough Liaison Nancy C. Tarascio-Latour

Chairman Sam Olmsted called the meeting to order at 7:05. He appointed Burke Gibney and Barbara Putnam to serve in place of absent members.

Approval of Minutes: Dave Carroll made and Marc Moura seconded a motion to adopt the minutes of May 6, 2021, as submitted. All but Burke Gibney, who abstained, voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Public Comment:
Carol Powers offered the suggestion that the Committee members should not think in a binary, all or nothing way about the building. Many concurrent uses could happen in the building, as has occurred in the past.

Presentation – John Langer
John Langer, liaison from the Borough of Bantam, reported on a special meeting of the Borough of Bantam Warden and Burgesses at which the future of the Annex building was discussed. He reported ideas for its future included forming a partnership with the Town to offer uses needed in town such as daycare and elder care. The possibility of selling the Borough Hall and moving its functions into the Annex building was discussed. There was concern about the rate at which the building’s fund was being depleted. A vote in support of the Borough taking ownership of the building if the Town no longer wants it was 13 to 1 in favor. He requested that the Town Facilities Review Committee give the Borough time to come up with a detailed proposal, which could be ready by October.

Matt Blasavage arrived

After some discussion, Dave Carroll moved and Chris Casiello seconded a motion that we invite the Borough of Bantam to the September 16, 2021 meeting. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Old Business:
Public Hearings and Presentation
We will have Informational Meetings, not Public Hearings, on June 23, 24 and 29. The Northfield meeting will be on the 24th. The Bantam meeting should be on the 29th. Barbara
Putnam will confirm the meeting places and do the notices of them. Burke Gibney made and Chris Casiello seconded a motion to schedule the meetings as discussed. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Sam showed the slides he has been working on. He will prepare a slide for each building -- the Town Hall, the Annex, the Intermediate School and the Center School -- showing its square footage, date of construction/renovation, utilization, and condition.

**Survey results**
We had 958 responses. Fewer of the paper surveys answered all the questions. Sam showed bar charts of the answers and lists of the facilities that received the most responses for what facilities people use the most, what new/improved facilities people want, and what they would be willing to pay for. Dave suggested that we have paper copies of these as well as slides at the informational meetings.

He will send the complete results out to all the members of the committee.

**New Business:**
**Review of the Ethics Rules**
Sam reviewed the text of *section 2.217 Financial or Private Interest* of the Ethics Committee’s Code of Ethics with the committee.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Putnam  
Recording Secretary