

Police Station Steering Committee Minutes October 5th, 2023

Members Present:

Bill Baldwin: Co-chair
Tim Crowley: Atkinson Police Chief and Co-chair
Nick Fiset: Atkinson Police Captain and Vice-chair
Dave Cacciotti
Matt Casey
Bob Connors
Karen Steele

Also present:

Will Gatchell - Harriman
Carl Orio: Chairman of Water Energy Distributors

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Carl Orio Presentation

Member Steele introduced Carl Orio, an expert in geothermal energy who lives in Atkinson and is a member of the town Water Resources Committee. Mr. Orio's Company, Water Energy Distributors, installed the geothermal system currently used in the Town Offices and the Haverhill Town Library. Mr. Orio discussed the advantages and disadvantages of geothermal systems, and the different types of geothermal systems, especially for the special needs involved in a police station.

Member Connors inquired about how iron/rust in well water will impact geothermal equipment. He also asked if Mr. Orio could provide a rough estimate of cost for the proposed station.

Mr. Orio explained that the highest cost would be for drilling and installing the well, with a rough number of \$375k. He also discussed comparable operational costs for electrical rates and alternative power systems such as geo-thermal or propane.

Member Steele mentioned the ledges at the proposed site. Mr. Orio indicated that rock is actually cheaper for well drilling.

Mr. Gatchell further elaborated that Harriman is completely on board for heat pump technology. The new building has approximately \$800k budgeted for HVAC, but has not identified a specific system.

Harriman RFP Presentation

The Committee reviewed the RFP as drafted by Harriman. The RFP has already been sent to 6 NH contractors, of whom 5 have already responded. Reliability of self-reported litigation was discussed by the committee, and Mr. Gatchell indicated that dishonest liability reporting is rare.

Motion to send out the RFP passed 7-0-0. Member Connors moved and Vice Chair Fiset seconded.

Other Business

Warrant Article – Chair Baldwin is working on making the Warrant article more clear and precise. He is using DRA information.

Tax Impact – Chair Baldwin is reviewing the tax impact with TA Apple and BoS.

Open Houses – December 13th and March 9 dates are confirmed.

Video Tour – Still being worked on.

Signs – Police Association will pay for signs and supply proper fiscal agent notification.

Minutes – Minutes approved 4-0-3, with members Connors, Crowley, and Cacciotti abstaining. Members Steele moved the motion and Fiset seconded.

Next Meeting – November, 2nd.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05. Moved and seconded by members Connors and Steele.