

**Town of Lincoln**

**Budget Board**

**Town Facilities Tour**

**March 26, 2016**

**Present:**

**Carl Brunetti Bill DiBiasio Mike O'Connell Rhonda Lacombe**

**Mike Babbitt Dave Hartley Paul Deutsch Bob Turner**

**Maria Marcello**

**The Town Facilities Tour began at 8:00 am.**

**Hearthside**

**It was noted that everything seen inside of the Hearthside was donated.**

**The last private residents lived in the house in 1997, and the Town received ownership in 2001.**

**It was noted that the building and the entire Great Road Historic District is a model for the entire state as a destination.**

**The Friends of the Hearthside organization regularly invest in the building, but do like the Town to also match that with some funding assistance.**

**The ultimate goal would be to make the building a revenue generator and to be able to hire a staff rather than rely solely on volunteers.**

**The Town Administrator noted that the Town does pay for capital improvements and operating costs for the building, and that by**

**classifying it as a museum it allows more use to the public.**

**The repairs to the roof are necessary because of some ice dams that occurred last winter. The bids have come in at a range of \$23,000 to \$52,000. They have an advisor who is looking at all of the bids, but the one that they are currently considering is approximately \$41,000.**

**They are applying for a grant that would provide a maximum of \$15,000, which the Friends of the Hearthside would match so the Town would be responsible for about \$15,000.**

**The state will still have the final word on what is done to the house due to its preservation status.**

### **Butterfly Dam**

**All violations have been lifted.**

**The next dam to be looked at will be Handy Pond, which is already under agreement with DEM as to what has to be done by the Town.**

### **Chase Farm**

**Preservation RI is an organization that came in last year and took over the house.**

**In exchange for leasing the house, the tenants will commit \$10,000 - \$12,000 in previously specified improvements to the property per year for at least 10 years.**

**They are also paying for heat and electricity so it is not costing the Town anything in the meantime.**

**The house has been made into two separate units, and the upstairs unit is currently occupied.**

**In the basement, new hot water heaters have been installed.**

**The Town Administrator discussed that Chase Farm and the Great Rd. District is becoming the de-facto Town Center and discussed future possibilities of having winter festivals, summer concerts, etc.**

### **Hot Potato Schoolhouse**

**The building will be a multi-year project, because the Town will be able to seek a lot more grant funding along the way by doing it that way.**

**It was noted that whenever the Town takes Federal or State funds, there may be easements imposed so that is always weighed when considering what the Town applies for.**

### **Animal Shelter**

**They are looking for an addition of an office and viewing area.**

**The population at the shelter because the focus has been on shorter term housing at the shelter with rescue agencies used in conjunction for any animals that are not adopted within a shorter span.**

**The Town did originally consider merging with the City of Pawtucket and sharing their facilities, but it did not seem worth the cost.**

**Now that the Town is in plans to expand their own shelter, they are in talks with the Town of Cumberland, and possibly even North Smithfield, to have them share the Lincoln facilities. They would charge for that, but the details of that are still being worked out.**

**Lincoln is likely the best community to host such a facility due to location and conditions, etc.**

## **Town Hall**

**The Information Technologies Department was moved to the old Personnel Office because it was discovered that the wall there is adjacent to the equipment room and had a doorway that had been walled in so the Town saved a lot on the project by opening that up instead of the original plan of creating a new office.**

**The counters in Finance will be rebuilt and become ADA compliant as the room was restructured somewhat with fewer staff now.**

**As part of the Police Addition, a new office was created for the Assistant Director of Finance.**

## **Police Station**

**The reception area was all redone, with the entire front wall now being bulletproof, and a new break room was created.**

**It was noted that no prisoners are ever upstairs in the public areas now.**

**There are administrative offices, interviewing and fingerprinting areas (with a machine worth \$10,000 donated by Amica Insurance).**

**In the newly added section, there is now an elevator, an employee bathroom, secure records rooms, and a conference room.**

**It was noted that the parking lot was not connected with the Town Hall parking lot around the back.**

**The entire renovation and addition project was over budget by about \$100,000.**

**The downstairs portion of the station now contains patrol offices and detention, utility and armory rooms, detectives and supervisory offices, interview rooms which are fully taped and recorded and a roll call room.**

**There are also women's and men's locker rooms, which have electricity in the lockers.**

**The cell block areas are designed so that photos, printing, testing, etc. are all done in that area so that no prisoners ever leave that contained part of the building.**

**It was noted that 4-6 cars are on the road at a time, depending on shift and time.**

**The new cars will all be SUVs, due to them being more roomy and comfortable and because Ford will be discontinuing the sedan models.**

**They are currently seeking a grant so that a gate can be created and only police vehicles can get to the back part of the parking area and the rear entrance to the building.**

**The Town Facilities Tour adjourned at 11:00 am.**