

HINCKLEY TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MEETING 9-25-17

Review Conceptual Architectural Design of the Old Fire Station

Community Questions and Answers:

- Could the old fire station be torn down?
 - The building is sound and not in decay, therefore, the trustees had to weigh the cost ratio between demolition and repair. They found it may cost more to demo the building.
- Is there storage available in the roof area of the old fire station?
 - No, there is no viable space with the wood trellises.
- Would there be wheelchair accessibility if the entry point shifted to the center of the building?
 - Yes, the conceptual design calls for two entries into the building. One to the west, and one to the east. Both would be handicap assessable.
- What is the frame of area in front of the building?
 - It is about 35 feet
- Would there be seating in the courtyard, outside the door?
 - Yes.
- How would you delineate the courtyard from the road?
 - Most likely, there would be a wall designed to separate the two.
- Have you look at other barriers for the front of the courtyard?
 - Concrete bollards could be an option.
- Is the drive wide enough for extra traffic?
 - Yes, a curb in the center of the drive and arrows showing direction would assist with traffic flow.
- Has the concept done away from cistern?
 - No. The cistern was from the old fire station and the plan will not change infrastructure.
- How will park traffic affect the driveway and parking?
 - The traffic for the park is minimal, if any. In fact, the survey showed that part of the population in Hinckley did not know the park existed.
- Is the front courtyard going to be considered a park?
 - No. It will be a street cape area for pedestrians and allow entry from the front of the building.

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- Is there a demand for additional community space?
 - Yes. We have had to turn groups away because the current town hall meeting space can only accommodate 50 people. There are groups meetings and shows that often rent space from outside sources, such as the local churches, because town hall is not big enough. Additionally, the overwhelming response within the survey asked for more community space.
- What do you mean by “Community Space”?
 - The trustees envision a place for the community to gather. A place where small businesses can meet, children can be tutored, scouts meetings can occur, and local friends can meet for coffee.
- Can the current septic system support two more toilets?
 - We would have to look into that. Additional toilets would be determined by final number of occupancy allowed. Parking and plumbing would be a primary focus moving forward.
- Do we have to keep the zoning vehicle in the building?
 - No, we don’t have to keep it inside, however, in order to better maintain the vehicle, we would like to keep it inside away from the elements.
- Is there room at the Service Department for the zoning vehicle?
 - No, there is no room there currently. The garage behind the Service Department is full as well. Part of that garage is used by RAH.
- Can we move the Zoning Department?
 - Suzanne is instrumental in Zoning and she runs the front desk at town hall. All of the Zoning files and instruments are at town hall, so it doesn’t make any sense to move all of that. We really don’t have anywhere to move the department to.
- How often is the zoning vehicle used?
 - It is driven three days a week. Part time by the zoning inspector and we have other staff utilize it for training events. It wouldn’t make a lot of sense to drive back and forth to use the vehicle.
- Will the heating in the old fire station need to be updated?
 - Yes, that will need to be updated because it has been a garage and has overhead heating.
- Is town hall staying the same?
 - Yes, the layout at town hall will stay the same with the exception of the main entry to a more central location.
- What is the next step?
 - We will prepare a phased master plan and look at the costs involved to begin budgeting. The renovation will be a slow process.

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- Will you look at central security?
 - Yes.

Comments:

- I like the administration more centrally located.
- Central administration would be more user friendly.
- The open access of the old bays in the back of the building is a good idea for large events. The Historical Society used the area with the bays open for the Antique Evaluation and I think we would like to do it that way again next year because it worked out so well.
- Buzzard Day, Fifth Grade Party and Movie in the Park also used the open bay area for their events. I like the idea of keeping that area.
- I don't like that the building will have a garage door in the front for the zoning vehicle. It doesn't look good aesthetically.
- There is no reason to have the zoning vehicle at town hall.

VOTE:

How many people would like to keep the garage door in the front of the building for the zoning vehicle?

2-YES 10-NO