

Richmond Municipal Building Committee

Meeting minutes

Richmond, MA

Sept. 22, 2020 at 5:00 pm (via Zoom)

Committee Attendees: Pat Callahan, Kathryn Wilson, Dick Stover, Stephanie Beling, Brad Havill, Mark Gross, Peter Cohen, Kristin Smith

Guests: Neal Pilson, Katherine Keenum, John Keenum, Nanci McConnell, Danielle Fillio, Bob Gniadek

Discussion: members discussed when to go forward with plans for a new building including new town offices and library community center. Topics included:

- School spending question and upcoming vote to fund that
- Construction costs will need to be rebid
- Match new building bond to the end of the school bond?
- Questions about status of library now – still in “curb delivery” phase of reopening but will soon go to “by appointment” phase – public seems satisfied with current status
- Too much uncertainty for public right now so any public discussion/promotion should be delayed until after the November election and maybe after the holidays – start public information sessions in January 2021?
- Are people in town having financial issues due to pandemic and economic fallout? Danielle reports very few unpaid tax bills
- Are people in town having health issues due to pandemic? Very few cases of Covid19 in Richmond
- This project for the town could be seen as a hopeful, future-looking event for Richmond and may be well received by currently socially-isolated residents

Next steps:

- Pat to invite Dan and Curtis to join the next Zoom meeting
- In preparation for possible town vote next May, re-bid/refresh construction costs, plan for community informational meetings for the months between January and May – in person and Zoom meetings?

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 5:00 pm (via Zoom)