

CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 20 ,2018

Attendance: Lance Beckman, Melinda Heindel, Sandy Montag, Tom Montag, Ann Anderson, Les Penny, Chuck Virts, Bill Crouse, Jim Webb, Debbie Olson, Lloyd Olson, Tom Culp, Dave Roth, Wes Long and Bob Merritt.

Overview of the work of the Citizens Task Force and their Recommendations - Bob Merritt

Key to passing Bond is PLANNING, ADHERING to 3 important principles and linking GOALS as established by the Citizens Task Force in 2013 to Capital Projects.

MAJOR PRINCIPLES:

1. Asking public to in debt themselves for two decades requires thorough planning and consultation to insure the debt pays for long-lasting improvement and enhancements to emergency service....GOOD VALUE
2. Maintaining and improving Level of Service as outlined by the Citizens Task Force of 2013
3. Upgrading equipment, protective clothing, training and training assets are a good value both from immediate enhancement of safety, service and future improvements to operational readiness.

This will adequately ensure that the operating budget for continued everyday management in training and delivery of services.

GOALS:

1. Maintain equipment required to adequately provide the safest and most effective protection for citizens' home and property.
2. Update fire stations

CAPITAL PROJECTS MATRIX (see handout)

Each project item and piece of equipment, as well as all requested Apparatus and Facilities Updates have been thoroughly described and linked to the above goals.

Estimated costs are in process and will be finalized in the next couple of weeks

In consultation with White Salmon Fire Department, it was determined that KCFD#3 will remain a stand-alone, independent, individual Volunteer Fire Department servicing the citizens from the existing fire station facilities for the foreseeable future. Therefore, a 20 year Bond would be worthwhile pursuing.

GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND:

This type of bond was discussed and we looked at numbers for a 15 year Bond. Bob will send us updated numbers for a 20 yr Bond. Based on the assessed value of the property in the Fire District, our debt capacity is approximately 3.5 Million. (the maximum that we can ask for in a Bond)

A General Obligation Bond is separate and different from our present Operational Levy. The levy pays for the daily operation of the Fire Department. It DOES NOT pay for major and expensive equipment, apparatus nor major building projects.. This is what we need the public to finance in order to continue to meet our goals of protecting the health and safety of our community.

TIME LINE:

1. Hire Bond Council (approx. \$40,000 to be added to the Bond)
2. Commissioners will need to approve a resolution to pay the Bond Council from the Bond Voters Pamphlet
3. Bob has talked with the County Prosecuting Attorney to establish the order of the wording on the ballot. He has ensured the explanatory statement- detailing the reason for the request is the first thing the voter will read, followed by the request for funding.
4. Pros and Cons need to be established for the bond. It has been suggested that the Citizens Advisory Council establish the pros of the Bond
5. For the measure to be on the November Ballot, the paperwork must be into the County by August 7.

PUBLIC EDUCATION:

1. Open house in September/October
2. Frequently asked questions pamphlet - mailer
3. Newspaper articles and Ads
4. Letters to the Editor. A sign up sheet was passed around for September and October
5. Facebook and Web site fact sheets
6. Door to door promotion using the fire fighters
7. Scrolling board could be rented for use in front of Husum fire station
8. Presentation to community groups by the Citizens Advisory council including churches, Rotary, community councils (Husum and Snowden)

OTHER DISCUSSION:

Funding towards upgrading the White Salmon Fire department facilities. This could make the availability of sleeping quarters a reality resulting in greatly reduced response times. By purchasing a bay in the White Salmon Fire house, we would be closer to Pucker Huddle etc.