

The Claremont City Council held a meeting on Tuesday, October 30, 2012, at the Armory, 75 Winter Street, Claremont.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Neilsen at 11:15 a.m.

Members of the Council present were:

At-Large Councilor Keith Raymond (Late)
Ward I Councilor Victor Bergeron
Assistant Mayor Andrew Austin
Mayor James Neilsen, IV
At-Large Councilor Thomas Burnham

Absent:

Ward III Councilor Nicholas Koloski
At-Large Councilor Christopher Irish
Ward II Councilor Roger Formidoni
At-Large Councilor Kyle Messier

Also present were:

Guy Santagate, City Manager
Nancy Merrill, Planning and Development Director
Police Chief Alex Scott
Fire Chief Rick Bergeron
Kurt Beek, Project Manager

NEW BUSINESS

Tour of the Armory

The meeting started at the Armory at 11:15 a.m. without a quorum of Councilors. Ms. Merrill explained the building is approximately 14,500 square feet and sits on 5.1 acres. The structure and foundation are in good shape except for the roof and that the building is not insulated. Mr. Santagate said the property was environmentally cleared before the state turned it over to the City. Ms. Merrill estimated it would cost \$125,000 for the roof and a total of about \$1.5 million for fit up (no new construction).

Mayor Neilsen said the reason for being there was to see if police and fire may be serviced through this building. Mr. Santagate said this was in response to a Council request. If the City can't use the building, it will continue to be marketed. Ms. Merrill said we will continue to look for developers. Also, there are five departments that have items stored in the building.

The question was raised about what to do with the Police Department if they were to use this building. Mr. Santagate said that depends; we would have to review that.

Mr. Bergeron said we would need to look at where to put the things that are stored in the building if it is to be used for another purpose.

Ms. Merrill said the property is zoned R2.

Mr. Burnham asked about storage at the JSL (Junior Sports League) building. Mr. Santagate said there is some. The JSL building is used for basketball. The New Community Center will offer basketball, so we will have to decide what to do with the JSL building.

Mr. Bergeron asked if the firing range is useable. Police Chief Alex Scott said yes, with some updates.

Chief Scott said we need to take stock of what the City has and make an entire City plan (maybe a 5-10 year plan) to see what is most cost effective to do with the building.

Chief Bergeron said the current fire station is viable. The old barn in the back of the building is the issue and is on the CIP (Capital Improvement Program). When that building is replaced with a heated one, then the Fire Department will be good for 20 years.

At 11:35 a.m. Councilor Keith Raymond arrived.

Council toured the facility.

CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

None

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:54 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Burnham and seconded by Mr. Austin to adjourn.

Voice vote: motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorée M. Russell
Clerk to the Council