

**SOUTH FIRE DISTRICT
Of the City of Middletown
BUILDING COMMITTEE
MEETING
Monday, January 14, 2019
5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Geen Thazhampallath (arrived at 5:33 p.m.), Commissioner Mary Bartolotta (arrived at 5:38 p.m.), Joseph Bibisi, Edward Creem, Nancy Hunter, Gene Nocera, Guy Russo, Philip Russo, Chief Michael Howley, Board of Fire Commissioners Chairman William Gregorio, Paul Morin, Paul Pizzo, Fire Department members and members of the public.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** Vice Chairman Guy Russo called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.
- 2. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION** Vice Chairman Guy Russo opened the Public Session at 5:31 p.m. No one wished to speak.
- 3. CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION** Vice Chairman Guy Russo closed the Public Session at 5:32 p.m.
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a.** Building Committee Meeting of November 13, 2018.

MOTION to approve the minutes of November 13, 2018 meeting by J. Bibisi/E. Creem. N. Hunter and G. Russo abstained. Motion approved.

- 5. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a.** Paul Pizzo discussed the bids received at the bid opening and provided a list of bidders which was circulated among the committee members. A total of ten bids were received. All bids were over the amount of state funds awarded to the District.
 - b.** The committee discussed the options available to South Fire District. Commissioner Bartolotta suggested she contact Senator Abrams and request assistance. Gene Nocera volunteered to contact Matt Lessor. Chief Howley advocated approaching the City of Middletown for LoCIP funds.

Approved
02/11/2019

The discussion was postponed due to another South Fire District meeting scheduled at 6:00 p.m. and insufficient time was available to finish the discussion and determine the next step.

Paul Pizzo agreed to create a one page list of talking points for the next Building Committee meeting for Commissioner Bartolotta and Gene Nocera to use during their requests for assistance.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn by E. Creem/N. Hunter. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Next meeting February 11, 2019 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen M. Kiley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'K' and 'y'.

Kathleen M. Kiley
Building Committee Secretary

**SOUTH FIRE DISTRICT
Of the City of Middletown
BUILDING COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, February 11, 2019
5:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Geen Thazhampallath, Commissioner Mary Bartolotta (arrived 5:10 p.m.), Edward Creem, Nancy Hunter, Guy Russo, Philip Russo, Chief Michael Howley, Board of Fire Commissioners Chairman William Gregorio, Paul Morin, Paul Pizzo, Fire Department members and members of the public.

Absent: Joseph Bibisi, and Gene Nocera.

1. CALL TO ORDER Chairman Geen Thazhampallath called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION Chairman Geen Thazhampallath opened the Public Session at 5:01 p.m.

James Mastroianni, Vice-Chair, SFD IAFF Local 3918

Vice-Chair Mastroianni spoke on behalf of Local 3918. He apologized President Nicholas Fischer could not be present for the meeting. Vice-Chair Mastroianni thanked everyone for all their hard work on the project. He explained that Building Committee member Philip Russo discussed the bids received for the project at the last union meeting. The membership would like to ask the committee to explore other options which may be beneficial and reduce the cost of the project. i.e. Adding a second floor, reducing the size of the addition, minimize added fees to aid in cost reduction, as well as, building a box and finishing later.

Dan Penney

Mr. Penney agreed with Vice-Chair Mastroianni. He believes the committee should explore other options and reduce the cost of the project. Mr. Penney also stated the funding for the project is for renovation only, not new construction.

3. CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION Chairman Geen Thazhampallath closed the Public Session at 5:09 p.m.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Building Committee Meeting of January 14, 2019.

MOTION to approve the minutes of January 14, 2019 meeting by E. Creem/N. Hunter.
Unanimously approved.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Paul Pizzo reviewed the bids with Donna Imme, City of Middletown Purchasing. She explained the project could move forward by staying within specific line items. Currently, approximately \$890,000 of the total project could be done which would include the shell of the building, roof, windows, and electrical to name a few. The project could continue to move forward while other funding options are explored. Paul Pizzo stated adding a second story to the existing structure is not an option. He also informed the committee expanding to the west is not an option due to wetlands.
- b. Commissioner Mary Bartolotta reported State Representative Quentin Phipps is working on the bond language and filing the financial paperwork. He spoke to former Senator Dante Bartolomeo regarding bond language flows from the previous bond. There is no guarantee of receiving the funds, and we will not know the result until July 2019 at the earliest. Commissioner Bartolotta stated she and Gene Nocera will continue to work with our legislators.
- c. William Gregorio, Chairman, SFD Board of Fire Commissioners addressed the committee about his reluctance to spend money we don't have yet. He does not feel comfortable starting construction without knowing if additional funds will become available. He asked if it was possible to request the low bidder to hold their pricing until June 2019.
- d. The committee discussed changing the scope of the project, possible additional funding options and the project continuation.

MOTION to authorize Landmark Architects to author a letter to the low bidder to request them to hold their bid pricing until June 15, 2019 by G. Russo/E. Creem.
Unanimously approved.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn by G. Russo/M. Bartolotta. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Approved
09/30/2019

Next meeting March 11, 2019 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen M. Kiley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a distinct 'M'.

Kathleen M. Kiley
Building Committee Secretary

**SOUTH FIRE DISTRICT
Of the City of Middletown
BUILDING COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, September 30, 2019
5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Geen Thazhampallath, Joseph Bibisi, Edward Creem, Nancy Hunter, Gene Nocera, Philip Russo, Chairman Board of Fire Commissioners William Gregorio, Chief Michael Howley, Paul Morin, Paul Pizzo, Fire Department members, and members of the public.

Absent: Mary Bartolotta, and Guy Russo.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Geen Thazhampallath called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- 2. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION** Chairman Geen Thazhampallath opened the Public Session at 5:31 p.m. No one wished to speak.
- 3. CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION** Chairman Geen Thazhampallath opened the Public Session at 5:32 p.m.
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a.** Building Committee Regular Meeting of February 11, 2019.

MOTION to approve the minutes of February 11, 2019 regular meeting by E. Creem/N. Hunter. Unanimously approved.
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a.** Chairman Thazhampallath discussed the efforts of the committee members and our legislators to obtain additional funding.
 - b.** Paul Pizzo, Landmark Architects discussed downsizing the project, however, completing the project in stages will result in a higher cost to the district. He suggested possibly obtaining a bond or a mortgage to complete the project.
 - c.** Chief Howley discussed the possibility of a scaled down version of the project. He has been working with our local politicians, and has recently been in contact with

Connecticut State Representative Joe Serra for assistance. He also suggested the Building Committee approach the City of Middletown for funding options.

MOTION to authorize Landmark Architects to begin potential redesign by E. Creem/N. Hunter. Unanimously approved.

MOTION to authorize Chairman Thazhampallath to compose a letter to the City of Middletown Finance Director, and the Mayor on behalf of South Fire District of our intent to seek funding in the amount of \$900,000 to complete the funding of the renovation project by G. Nocera/J. Bibisi. Unanimously approved.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn by E. Cream/J. Bibisi. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen M. Kiley". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kathleen M. Kiley
Building Committee Secretary