

**Planning Advisory Board
Meeting Summary
September 14, 2022**

Attendance:

Geoffrey Close
James Thornton
Diane Sengstacke
Aaron Penman

P&Z Staff:

Jenny Jarkowski
Jennifer Freeman

Also in Attendance:

Joseph Miller, Volunteer Fire and EMS
William Dousa, Volunteer Fire and EMS
Rusty Eyre, Volunteer Fire and EMS
Christian Donley, Volunteer Fire and EMS
Brandy Graziosi, Volunteer Fire and EMS
Missy Valentino, HCPS
Cornell Brown, HCPS
Rick Ayers, Emergency Services
Michelle Sexton, Emergency Service
Kim Spence, Budget
Rob Sandlass, Treasury

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Minutes/Summary**

The PAB members approved the summary of the June 2022 PAB meeting.

3. **Fiscal Year 23 Budget- Volunteer Fire Companies**

Christian Donley presented a few plan. He asked various companies to present a brief synopsis of their request. These companies are Bel Air House, Susquehanna Hose (\$10,852,932), Abingdon House Expansion (\$2,000,000), and Havre de Grace Second Station House (\$1,150,000). They are trying to encourage volunteers to stay in the station resulting in faster responses.

Mr. Eyre presented for Bel Air House #1. It is similar to last years request. They are asking to renovate for more private bunk rooms. They will have their own entrance now. They are also updating the kitchen/meeting area. They also need to do the HVAC system. Mr. Close asked if \$4 million was the request. Mr. Eyre said that was the

estimate last year. They are getting a new estimate in November and it may be closer to \$6 million.

Mr. Miller presented for the Susquehanna Hose Company in Havre de Grace. They are land base and water based. They are asking to rebuilt their fire house. They want to add bunk rooms and shower facilities for Fire and County EMS personnel. And other 24/7 amenities. They want to add office spaces to the building and enlarge the meeting room.

Mr. Dousa presented for Abingdon House #1. It is the same presentation as last year. They are looking at expand their firehouse. They are looking for more private bunkrooms and a place to study. This is just a placeholder request to see how the new Riverside House will affect them. And the request most likely will be much bigger. Mr. Thornton asked about the Riverside project. Ms. Spence said it was fully funded. Mr. Sandlass said from the funding perspective it is done. But they don't know where in the project they are. Mr. Dousa said it depends how many of the bunks will be used by the county and what is left for their guys. They have no agreements. Mr. Sandlass said we will be able to get back to you about where the project is. Mr. Dousa said Riverside will be the County's station and they can use it. So we just need to get the details and want to make sure Abingdon is still on the list of priorities if it is still needed.

Ms. Graziosi presented a plan about land acquisition and planning for a second house in Havre de Grace. They are asking for \$1,150,000. She went over a few properties they have looked at.

Mr. Penman asked what the new amount was for the Darlington Station. Mr. Donley said they are not asking for anything right now. They are trying to do other things. They don't have a timeline to use the funds they got last year.

4. Fiscal Year 23 Budget- Board of Education

Cornell Brown and Missy Valentino presented for Board of Education. They updated the balancing enrollment process. High School and Middle School boundaries were adjusted. Elementary School boundaries will be adjusted once there is a new elementary school built. Ms. Valentino said one priority would be Harford Tech Limited Renovation. Other projects include Havre de Grace Elementary School Roof Replacement, Aberdeen Middle School systemic renovation and Harford Academy at Campus Hills. These are all eligible for State funding. She also went over a few local only needs. One project is converting to full day Pre-K. Also, technology, fleet replacement, Stormwater management, HVAC repairs, and facility maintenance.

Mr. Thornton said technology looks lighter now then previous years. Ms. Valentino said things got moved to the operating budget to get things done quickly. And they were able to get some funding last year so they were able to update some aging technology. Mr. Brown said it was in the capital budget until Covid. The lease program for technology is

being looked at for their fleet also. Then that would be in the operating budget also. Mr. Sandlass asked about the estimate for the Harford Academy. Mr. Brown went through the process. Ms. Valentino also explained it is a Special Needs school so the need it different from another school.

5. Fiscal Year 23 Budget- Emergency Services

Rick Ayers and Michelle Sexton presented for Emergency Services. Their priorities are as follows: Special Ops Rescue Response Vehicle, Riverside EMS/VFC Station, North EMS Station, Next Gen-911, Multi-Agency Public Safety Mobile Command Center, Mobile/Portable Radio System Upgrade, VFC Public Safety Equipment, Public Safety Communication in School Buildings, and Emergency Operations Center Complex.

Mr. Close asked if there was already money for Next Gen. Ms. Spence said it is State funding. Mr. Close asked how much a response vehicle is. Mr. Ayers said they are asking for \$2 million. Ms. Sexton said when they first started looking into it, it was much lower. Mr. Thornton asked what the total funding request is for 2024. Ms. Spence said 6.3 million? Mr. Ayers said 3.5 million would be coming from the State. Mr. Penman asked about technology system improvements. Is State money included? Mr. Ayers said it to part of a fee that everyone gets charged for having a cellphone.

6. Other Business

The next meeting is October 12th for the Budget.

This meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.