

**SWEDEN Fire Department Building Committee Meeting
April 10, 2007**

MINUTES of Sweden Fire Station Building Committee (SFSBC) regular meeting Tuesday April 10, at the Sweden Town Office

Chairperson Wolfgang Duve called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

PRESENT: SFSBC Chairperson: Wolfgang Duve.

Members: John Smith, Julie McQueen, Wayne Miller.

Public: Patrick Wood

ABSENT: Members Bill Morriseau, Rob Slattery

- The committee briefly discussed the need for more members and the need to complete
- assigned tasks in order to reach our goals.
- At 9:25 am present members arrived at the Denmark Fire Station for a tour by Denmark Fire Chief Ken Richardson.
- The following notes are not necessarily in the order in which things were discussed. They are loosely organized by topic.

The Denmark Fire Station Building:

- Their building is 50 X 70 ft (3500 SF) with an additional room on the back that measures
- approximately 20 X 24 (480 SF) which is currently used for storage but will ultimately be used as a meeting room. It would have been less expensive just to make the building a little longer since the bump out has a separate roof line, etc.
- The building has 14 Ft. ceilings, which allow for an individual to stand on top of a truck safely.
- The building cost under \$200,000 when built between 2003 and 2004. The work was done by a local contractor, whose crew required a lot of supervision.
- Per Ken, they put the money away over a period of years to build the Fire Station and did not have to borrow any money. The Town of Harrison has also done an excellent job of funding Capital Improvements (which the Fire Station is)
- The Fire Dept. did some of the work themselves (painting the interior, sheet rock, installing cabinets and countertops).
- They received a \$5,000 donation for the shrubbery, which they planted themselves.
- They also received a donation to cover the cost of purchasing the high quality cabinetry in the kitchen, which they also installed themselves along with the countertops.
- The Town crews did their septic.
- Per Ken Richardson there is very little that they would do differently. Some changes might include:
 - He would not install ceiling fans, with radiant heat (which the building has) they never turn them on.
 - He would deck the area between trusses and add access in order to have additional storage if necessary which would not have to be ADA compliant.
 - He would not use mini breakers for electrical. It saved a little money but has had a few problems. He would install the hydrant used to wash the trucks inside the building to avoid any tampering in case they forget to turn off the valve, which is inside.
- It took approximately 1 year to build the station once they broke ground.

- They drew up the basic plans for the building themselves. Little Pond (Carpentry or Architecture), a local licensed engineer drew them up and approved them before they were sent to the State Fire Marshall for approval prior to construction. George Sawyer is a Sweden resident and licensed engineer who could probably do this kind of work. The State Fire Marshall also inspects the building upon completion as did their insurance company and no changes were recommended.
- There is no truck maintenance done at the building as it is classified as a storage barn which was required by the Denmark Planning Board (due to concerns by one neighbor). They are currently working on getting that classification changed.
- There are allowances for expansion, but the Town doesn't think expansion will be necessary for at least another 50 years.
- There are approximately 1,000 residents in Denmark and the Denmark Fire Dept. has 30-100 calls per year.
- The Denmark Fire Dept. has a membership of 25 individuals.
- The Denmark Fire Dept. currently has 5 vehicles, which is what the Sweden Fire Dept. will likely have in order to meet the requirement that they have 3,500 Gal at the scene of a fire.
- Ken Richardson (the Fire Chief) will have to check with the Denmark Town Office in order to provide accurate "cost to operate" information.
- All Sweden Fire Station Bldg. Committee members present agreed that the Denmark building is not only attractive but highly functional and appears to be easily maintained.
- The exterior of the Denmark building has high-grade vinyl siding with a brick façade over the concrete.
- The Denmark building has green metal roofing with a baked enamel finish.
- The building has 3 - 12 X 12 Garage Doors.
- The building has 4 man-doors and 5 windows.
- The parking lot is paved with a 2" base of asphalt plus a 1" surface coat. Their cost was approximately \$5,000 for this work. F.R. Carroll (spelling?) out of Limerick did the work but Denmark got a price break because this is the same company that does all of their Town work. We should probably expect to pay more. The crushed gravel subbase compaction is the most important factor for a good paved finished product.
- The required area for a truck to turn around is twice the length of a truck. In our case we would need at least an 80 Ft. long apron in front of the doors.
- The red light and siren have not been installed and are not required.

Interior of building:

- The building must be ADA accessible, which means that it is basically barrier free (including the doors, shower, etc.).
- Besides the garage and the meeting room there is a dispatch room, a small kitchen, bath and utility room. The dispatch room, kitchen and bath have vinyl tiles. The utility room houses the utility sink, washer, water heater, boiler oil tank, an air compressor from Home Depot and the ever-important vacuum cleaner.
- The floor of the station is 6" thick, 4500-PSI concrete with Styrofoam underneath. The key to success will be compaction of the material underneath, particularly since we will likely be building on fill.
- The concrete floor has an 8" pitch.

- They did not install floor drains because they were under the impression that they would be required to install oil separators, etc.. This turned out not to be true, but they can easily hose out the station and allow the water to run out the front doors without the drains.
- The building is of conventional construction with an 8 ft. concrete wall (4 ft underground which serves as a frost wall and 4 ft. above ground.). Conventional stick built construction and trusses complete the building. Because of the trusses there are no load bearing walls.
- The radiant heat system was installed by McBurnie Oil.
- They use approximately 1,000 – 1,200 Gal of fuel oil per year (Ken would have to check)
- A chimney is necessary. This was one of the few problems Denmark had – their chimney was not installed correctly the first time.
- With the radiant heat they can stretch the hoses out on the floor and they dry quickly without the need for additional drying towers.
- Side note – the copper tubing that runs from the boiler could probably be wrapped to reduce heat loss.
- They keep the kitchen at approximately 70 degrees and the rest of the station at approximately 60 degrees.
- There is no need for air conditioning.
- There is no provision for exhaust lines, which can be a problem. They are looking into 100% particulate reduction for diesel dust - it is less expensive to outfit the trucks than the station for this.
- They installed ceiling fans, which they would not do again. With radiant heat, there is no need for them.
- The Department has a 12KW generator, which is sufficient. It is tied in to the system but does not come on automatically; someone has to push a button.
- The station has 200-amp power, which is sufficient. 3 Phase is not necessary (which is a good thing because it is not available in Sweden near the site).
- The station has simple but effective fluorescent lighting
- The garage doors have automatic door openers.
- There are no smoke detectors as they are not required.
- There are no outside outlets. Inside outlets located near doors and windows are sufficient.
- The station is wired with F5 cable for computer, high speed internet, and could be used for cable TV if they chose to get their internet that way.
- The ceiling is metal siding, which is easy to maintain. Once a year the power is turned off and the ceilings are hosed off.
- The insulation above the ceiling is blown in.
- There is a scuttle to get to the roof (this we did not actually see).
- There are ceiling drops for both air lines and electrical lines.
- The interior of the perimeter walls is 5/8” thick material similar to chip board. The walls have 3 coats of polyurethane so they are durable and attractive.
- The top of the concrete wall (4 ft above ground) is trimmed with a piece of wood at a 45 degree angle, which prevents that area from collecting “stuff” – great idea!
- The well is 320 ft. deep and the station is extremely fortunate to get 30 gal per minute.
- There are 2 standard sinks (kitchen, bath); 1 shower, 1 toilet, 1 industrial washer (no dryer), and a utility sink.
- They have an exterior hydrant for washing trucks, etc. and would likely put it inside next time to avoid tampering although there is a shut off valve inside the building.

- They try to hose off trucks to remove sand and salt before bringing them into the station. Within a matter of hours they are dry due to the radiant heat.
- Shelving is used for most storage.
- We completed the visit at approximately 11:00 am.

Assignments:

Wayne will contact Scott Thomas and will invite him to attend a meeting. Our regular meeting schedule does not work for Scott but we could schedule an additional meeting. Wayne will let us know ASAP so we can schedule an additional meeting.