Library Building Committee aims to select OPM by July 10

By MAUREEN DOHERTY
LYNNFIELD — The Library Building Committee (LBC) is one step closer to awarding the owner's proj ect manager (OPM) contract for the library building project.

Nine firms applied for the contract and seven met their criteria for further consideration. From this list, three firms were "shortlisted" for interviews before the LBC, while two other "highly qualified" firms could also be tapped if any of the initial three firms fall through, according to LBC Chairman Russell Boekenkno erge.

To enable the LBC to keep to its timeline in awarding the contract by July 10, the selectmen voted 3-0 at its June 15 meeting to delegate to Town Administrator Jim Boudreau the authority to negotiate and award the contract.

Boekenkroeger explained that the LBC makes its recommendations to the Library Trustees who then will give Boudreau their recommendations.

Boudreau said normally the selectmen would award the contract based upon these recommendations, but since the board's next meeting is not until July 13 and he also serves as the town's chief procurement officer, this approach makes the most sense.

There is also precedent for this action, the most recent being the awarding of the contracts for the construction of the town's playing fields handled by former T.A. Bill Gustus.

Selectmen Chairman Phil Crawford said, "I know you have a time frame that you have to work with and your funding agreement had the deadline. The funding is already in place. There is no town money; it is library money. I don't see a problem with this at all. We've done it in the past." Selectmen Tom Terranova and Chris Barrett agreed.

Terranova asked what the estim ated cost for the new or renovated li brary would be. Boekenkroeger said, "That is why we are doing this." Library Director Nancy Ryan added, "It depends on whether we re novote on site or build a new freestand ing building in new location."

Boudreau said it costs approx imately $300 per square foot to build a library and they are looking to build a 24,000-square-foot building. He said by doing the simple math it is an expensive project.

"The state reimburses 40 percent to 50 percent of the cost so you are still looking at $3.5M to $4M."

Ryan added, "We have a long way to go. I would not be surprised if the scope of the project goes down." She added that due to the limited avail ability of parking at the existing loca tion if the town was to renovate this building the town would be disqualified from any state reimbursement funds.

Selectman Chris Barrett said he was "most impressed" by the "out standing" work the library study committee has done to date.

Vacancies filled
The selectmen voted unanimously to approve the appointments of three residents to fill vacancies on three town boards.

• Barbara White was appointed to the Lynnfield Cultural Council. She has two school-age children and vast experience in multi-media pro duction and branding communications as a producer for Jack Morton Worldwide as well as experience in contemporary art and public rela tions.

• Rocco Iocco, DMD, was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board of Health following the retirement of David Jamison, DSS, from the board earlier this month. Iocco has prac ticed dentistry for 29 years, 27 of which have been in his own practice in town. He holds undergraduate de grees in both microbiology and med ical technology and has served as a consultant for Blue Cross and Blue Shield as well as leadership positions within both the Massachusetts and North Shore Dental Societies. He is also a past president of the Lynnfield Lions Club.

• Angelo Salamone was appointed as an alternate member to the Conservation Commission. A 1979 graduate of Northeast Metro Tech in Wakefield where he studied carp entry, he has worked in the field as a carpenter and builder for 36 years. He holds a construction supervisor's license and has overseen both resi dential and commercial projects for the past 20 years. He has worked for private companies and as an independent home building which has given him first-hand knowledge of going before boards such as the Conservation Commission and working within the rules and regula tions that affect the industry.

BAN sales authorized
• The selectmen unanimously

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