

**PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE
VIA ZOOM
MAY 4, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair R. Weatherall called the meeting to order at 7:07 with the following members present: L. Alexson, T. Jones, Chief P. Nikas, P. Dziadose, H. Schwartz, R. Donahue, C. Surpitski, and J. Emerson. Absent were: Chief A. Theriault, K. Carlson, and J. Fay.

CITIZEN QUERIES

None.

HKT REPORT UPDATE

Bob reported on the day's update with Janet Slemenda of HKT, specifically focused on page 33 of her Executive Report. Discussion involved how to represent the climb of the Public Safety building from 2019 when the committee was first asking the Town to buy a site to the October Town Meeting in 2021 when PSFC will be asking for upwards of \$27 million and projections forward of a 3 ½% increase if it should fail. Hopefully, there will be a print version of this report when Bob makes his report at the spring Town Meeting on May 12, 2021.

In discussion, Rob projected this update of the document online, and the Committee was able to make corrections. To Linda's question about possible charges for corrections that PSFC has made to the Executive Report, Chief Nikas confirmed that charges occur only when there is a marker; that is, something accomplished. Linda asked when Bob anticipates receiving copies of the HKT final report, and he replied that he hopes to have in-hand copies for the Select Board, Finance Committee, and PSFC and beyond that, it will be digital.

DISCUSSION RE SIOBHAN'S MULTI-PAGED DRAFT FOR OUTREACH TO THE COMMUNITY

Bob thanked her for her work on assigned tasks, ideas for meeting with other Town Boards, social media posts, and newspaper articles. With the upcoming Spring Town Meeting, Rob felt the need to tell the voters that PSFC is "still here!" and in determining the timeline with the goal of the October 16 Fall Town Meeting, he vocalized his projections of an 8-week crunch following four hearings on the Warrant in August with a ramp-up of multiple meeting with groups, an open-air EBSCO lot meeting for Q and As, meetings with the Fin Com, Select Board, and School Committee, letters in the newspapers, and ICAM presentations in talks with the Chiefs and/or Town Manager. Finally, there is need for lawn signs.

Bob mentioned specific members in his request for volunteers: Newspaper: Jean, Harvey; Facebook: Rob; Police Union: Peter. Discussion ensued re a unified positive message from members of this committee and everybody who will be housed in the PS building. Peter asked, without a unified front, how is the public going to support this project? Chief Paul volunteered to look up advocacy in regard to this committee and the laws on ethics. Charlie commented that one of us retirees could play a more active role for the vote to get the project done.

Linda reported having spoken at her Select Board meeting about forming a Public Safety Reuse Task Force by midsummer. We would then be able to inform Fall Town Meeting that a committee is in place and working on developing ideas for best possible reuse of the existing sites. Charlie added that a study is needed to replace the gardens on the new Public Safety site as well.

NEXT MEETING

PSFC will meet on May 25 at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tammy moved, seconded by Linda, to accept Minutes of April 22, 2021. Roll call: IN FAVOR- Tammy, Bob, Harvey, Peter, Chief Paul, Linda, Charlie, Jean. Abstaining: Rob.

ADJOURNMENT

Linda moved, seconded by Tammy, to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Roll call: IN FAVOR- Tammy, Bob, Charlie, Harvey, Rob, Paul, Linda, Peter, and Jean.