

IPSWICH PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 12, 2017
TOWN HALL, MEETING ROOM B2

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman R. Weatherall called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the following members present: L. Alexson, P. Polonsky, H. Schwartz, P. Dziadose, K. McShera, P. Nikas, C. Surpitski, R. Donahue, and J. Emerson. Absent were Chief Gagnon and K. Buhl.

CITIZEN QUERIES

PREPARATION FOR TOWN MEETING

Mr. Weatherall asked who should be the speaker at the November 7 meeting when there is a small time allotment allowed for PSFC before the main topics—the Town Warrants—are taken up. Should we touch on history and bring it up to the present, stressing dire need? Is the goal for the season ahead the feasibility study? What is the timeline?

Chief Nikas urged that the citizens watch Town-conducted meetings and read PSFC Minutes online. Mr. Weatherall suggested that he would write a draft to then be shared with the members.

Mr. Dziadose urged that the Fin Com report, which is distributed to every household in Town before a Town Meeting, include information about the need for a modern public safety facility. Others mentioned visiting the current facilities and stressing that we are not in competition with the school project. The Finance Committee would like to have representation on the PSFC, but BOS needs to approve first.

Serious discussion took place re information to include and what not to include. Rob Donahue called it a “branding project, that Ipswich Police and Fire Departments need modern facilities.” Town safety facilities do not support modern policing and modern fire fighting. The amount of server space that is required cannot be added in the current facilities nor in one that is “fixed up.” Modern policing has modern needs. The ways that public safety services have changed, largely since 2002, make obvious a long-recognized need.

The members worked on the draft put together by Mrs. Emerson, adding and deleting information. Mr. Weatherall will contact the FinCom re the written report to the community and the timeframe needed for its publication.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Donahue moved, seconded by Chief Nikas, to approve the August 29, 2017 Minutes. UNANIMOUS.

OLD BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING

Decision was made for PSFC meetings to take place on October 10 and October 24 prior to Town Meeting on November 7.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Emerson moved, seconded by Mr. Surpitski, to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.
UNANIMOUS.