# PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE TOWN HALL ROOM C SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robert Weatherall called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. with the following members present: Chief Theriault, R. Donahue, T. Jones, R. McShera, Chief Nikas, L. Alexson, and J. Emerson. Janet Slemenda, HKT Architect for the project, and P. Dziadose, who joined shortly after, were present as well. Absent were P. Polonsky, C. Surpitski, H. Schwartz, K. Carlson, and J. Skelton.

# **CITIZEN QUERIES**

None.

# QUESTIONS/ANSWERS FOR THE PUBLIC

The members divided into Police and Fire categories with white boards to discuss possible questions/ answers from the residents of Ipswich. They came together later to discuss and add to the Q and A's posted. Rob stressed that all of the members should be on the same page with the same answers to the questions posed by the citizenry; all agreed. Following this discussion, consensus was reached on the three most important questions as follows:

- 1. Why not wait for a PSF until after the elementary school is built?
- 2. How much will the PS facility improve service to the residents?
- 3. How much more taxes will be imposed per household?

Jean will put the material contributed into draft form for discussion at next week's meeting.

A third category, Finance, became an important topic when Tammy created a chart depicting the High/Middle School bond coming off the debt roles in 2020 with the Public Safety facility then put in place, so that the increase in taxes will be minimized. When the bonded debt for the PS facility drops, the new elementary school could pick up the difference. Tammy will ask Sarah Johnson, Town Accountant, to plot out a graphic depiction.

Rob demonstrated the slogan developed at his business: CORE/CARE/DO. CORE means what?, CARE means why?, and DO is obvious. To the Dude Solutions' recent report to the Town regarding police/fire buildings as being "sound", the answers are: Fire and Police work 24/7 and live in their buildings, and the old buildings have to be maintained with huge chunks of money in yearly budgeted line items to keep them running—a wasteful necessity.

Chief Nikas withdrew to attend the Finance Committee meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Janet Slemenda, having given helpful info throughout the discussions, explained that there will be an escalation of 7% per year for hard construction costs as time goes along, followed by soft costs (engineering, furniture/equipment, etc.) and contingency costs.

#### FALL TOWN MEETING

Bob presented a template for a Town Meeting Committee Report which was discussed along with a choice for PSFC's speaker and a handout to be completed which will contain a graphic.

# APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Linda moved, seconded by Tammy, to approve Minutes for the meeting on September 10, 2019, and the tour of the Salisbury Police facility on September 11, 2019. UNANIMOUS.

#### NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

PSFC will meet at 7 p.m. in Room B2 of Town Hall on October 1, 2019. Ryan moved, seconded by Bob, to adjourn at 8:46 p.m.