

**IPSWICH PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE**  
**OCTOBER 26, 2022**  
**ROOM A, TOWN HALL**

**CALL TO ORDER**

In the absence of Chair R. Weatherall, member J. Fay, pro temp, called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. with the following members present: Chief P. Parisi, Chief P. Nikas, P. Dziadose, Dep. Chief L. Prentiss, T. Jones, K. Buhl, R. Donahue, C. Surpitski, and J. Emerson. Also present were Ted Gallante and Kayla Gallo (TGAS, architectural firm), J. Sarni, (Design Review Board), and M. Delai, (Climate Resiliency Committee). Also absent were D. Morris, and H. Schwartz.

**CITIZEN QUERIES**

None.

**DISCUSSION OF DRAFT DESIGNS OF BEIGE CONTEXT AND MASSING ILLUSTRATIONS**

Ted explained the final survey of existing conditions with the civil engineer: the site, the building, the undevelopable areas, the tree areas, and the overall site plan along the upper firehouse to Linebrook, reducing parking and increasing greenspace. While Chief Nikas presumed that parking is adequate for bad weather and icy conditions, Jamie Fay wished to make sure that the lines (wetland delineation) are clear, and Ted promised to double check with the Conservation Committee.

Jamie suggested that the trailers be placed below the parking areas, and the current plan for trailer parking should be studied. Discussion ensued regarding the use of geo-block porous pavers for parking close to the wetlands line. Aaron Woodworth of the Police Department spoke up about the problem of backing into parking spaces in too small an area. Chief Parisi was concerned about the 30 people in the community who will need parking from time to time, while using the community meeting room and have no connection with the Fire or Police. Also, he said, we have 30 call and regular fire personnel, 22-23 of whom mostly come back to assist when there is a fire and need parking spaces.

While Ted said that four EV spaces are required, he would like to see at least six and maybe more. Jamie suggested that a better arrangement might be a single unit that would serve two cars. Ted was asked to study the parking spaces again including EV spaces.

Jamie read Bob Weatherall's comments.

With guiding context and precedent studies depicted, Ted introduced Massing illustrations in his 20+page document (dated 10/26/22) on screen and explained the use of "channel glass" (translucent linear cast-glass channels for interior or exterior applications), recommending that Ipswich Fire get in touch with the Davenport, Iowa, Fire Department which has a fire tower and rappelling.

TGAS had included the “Beige Context” in Ipswich buildings, color palette, and material palette as he spoke of the future of Ipswich rather than the past in regard to design. He presented three designs: “sloped”, “illuminate”, and “canopy”. The three renderings of the full facility, illustrated in light color with darker accents, were presented and comments made. Jamie questioned whether the perspective views were accurate representations. Chief Nikas noted that “Ipswich” wasn’t anywhere on the building concepts. John Sarni opined that the design doesn’t look like anything Ipswich has, was concerned about how the tower looked, and questioned why the Elm St. radio tower couldn’t continue as is and have the new facility as a backup. There was discussion re the tower. Jamie suggested John ask the Design Review Board to join in on the Planning Board presentation if possible.

Ted presented a fourth version with a peaked roof and declared that a strong civic building is important and a pitched roof is not as proud and strong. Tammy reiterated her concerns about peaked roofs not being an efficient use of space and that the budget is limited so that we cannot afford to build a structure that has wasted space. Tammy also noted that the present design is already at or close to the maximum allowed height according to Town by-laws, and she preferred the “sloped” or the “illuminate” designs. To Jamie’s comment of the “small forest” on the top of the building in the canopy version, Ted said he was showing the green concept. Chief Parisi wishes to have operable windows for ventilation. All of these elements have to be thought through carefully.

Following comments and questions, conversation ensued regarding next steps to the Planning Board and the public and comparing the Ipswich plan with Essex, Salisbury, etc. Ted will continue to develop the plan.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chief Nikas moved, seconded by Chief Parisi, to accept Minutes of October 12, 2022. UNANIMOUS with Peter, Kendall, and Rob abstaining because of absence.

#### NEXT MEETINGS

The Working Group will meet on November 2, at 9:30 a.m.

A meeting will be held with the Planning Board on November 10.

PSFC will meet on November 16, at 6 p.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Jamie moved, seconded by Tammy, to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. UNANIMOUS.