

**PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE
TOWN HALL ROOM A/C
OCTOBER 10, 2019**

**OPEN SESSION
CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Robert Weatherall called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. with the following members present: Chief Theriault, K. Carlson, T. Jones, P. Dziadose, L. Alexson, R. Donahue, R. McShera, and J. Emerson. Absent were P. Polonsky, C. Surpitski, Chief Nikas, and H. Schwartz. In addition the following members of the Finance Committee were present: J. Skelton, J. Fay, R. White, T. Goodrich, and J. Bourque.

Mr. Weatherall entertained a motion to enter Executive Session to consider the purchase and value of real property to serve as a location for a new public safety building; moved by Ms. Jones and seconded by Chief Theriault. In the Executive Session, Mr. Weatherall stated, the Public Safety Facility Committee will discuss a potential opportunity to acquire a parcel of land for the purpose of constructing a new public safety building and discussing this matter in an open meeting—including disclosure of the location of the property—may have a detrimental effect on the Town’s negotiating position. ROLL CALL: L. Alexson, J. Emerson, Chief Theriault, R. Weatherall, T. Jones, P. Dziadose, K. Carlson, R. McShera, and R. Donahue.

Chair of the Finance Committee Janice Skelton entertained a motion to enter Executive Session to consider the purchase and value of real property to serve as a location for a new public safety building; moved by Mr. Fay and seconded by Mr. White. ROLL CALL: J. Fay, R. White, J. Bourque, T. Goodrich and J. Skelton. Mrs. Skelton announced that, at the conclusion of the Executive Session, the Fin Com would not reconvene in Open Session.

OPEN SESSION resumed at 8:18 p.m.

Rob Donahue distributed another draft of the FAQs which were reviewed and revised with Rob recording suggestions. Further additions by members will be sent to him via email. Ryan distributed his work on a new flyer for Town Meeting which the group will review and report back.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tammy moved, seconded by Peter, to accept Minutes of 9/24/19 (Linda amended to strike the cost number on p. 2 which was accepted by Tammy) and the Minutes of 10/1/19 UNANIMOUS with Linda abstaining because of absence.

NEXT MEETING

Decision was made to meet on October 22 at 7 p.m. in Room B2 for further work re the Fall Town Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Linda moved to adjourn, seconded by Peter, at 8:25 p.m. UNANIMOUS.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Peter Dziadose came forward, thanking the Finance Committee for attending. He reflected briefly on the history of Committees like this who have been looking for a new safety facility. The Select Board in 2017 gave the Public Safety Facility Committee the charge of looking for a place for a combined facility on a four- to five-acre lot. In looking all over town, the Committee viewed and reviewed several lots previously studied. They toured the current police and fire facilities. Bialek Park was seriously studied and interested citizens were interviewed for their concerns. Elm Street was seriously considered. A privately owned site is being studied, and Mr. Dziadose distributed a page of that site. The School Committee had deemed that it was too small for a school. Mr. Dziadose spoke with Father Keyes who was very supportive because the parcel would support the Town. Subsequent meetings were held with the Town Manager, the Police Chief, and church officials. Two days ago the Boston diocese agreed to offer two buildable upper lots on church-owned land (four acres) with the stipulation that only a public safety building would be built on the property. Attorneys on both sides are working on the project with the full support of the diocese. The price and manner of payment are as yet unresolved, and they have asked for two more weeks.

Fin Com members were receptive. The proposed land is within the appropriate fire response time within the Town. Alternate routes are available for emergency coverage from the proposed site. It would negate the very busy Rte. 1A (Central Street) in answering emergency calls from the current old Fire Station. The architect has walked the property. The Conservation Agent and the Planning Board have been consulted and have given their "ok".

At 7:30 p.m. the combined group of Public Safety and Finance Committee moved to Room C at the Town Hall because the Executive Session was reportedly being broadcast by ICAM. Michael Doherty of the Fin Com had joined the meeting.

PSFC members explained their reviews of other sites which had been discarded for various reasons: lack of room for vehicle parking, fire apparatus turning, neighborhood complaints, and underground water problems. Land areas discarded by this PSFC committee will become available to the Town for other uses. Mr. Weatherall explained that the architect (HKT) has done the feasibility study, and the next phase (possibly Spring Town Meeting) would ask for preliminary design funding and the acquisition of the property.

Mr. Fay moved, seconded by Mr. Doherty, to go out of Executive Session at 8:15 p.m.
ROLL CALL IN FAVOR: M. Doherty, J. Fay, R. White, J. Bourque, T. Goodrich, and J. Skelton.

Mrs. Alexson moved, seconded by Ms. Jones, to go out of Executive Session at 8:17 p.m.
ROLL CALL IN FAVOR: R. Donahue, P. Dziadose, K. Carlson, A. Theriault, T. Jones, R. Weatherall, R. McShera, L. Alexson, J. Emerson.