

IPSWICH PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 16, 2022
ROOM A, TOWN HALL

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robert Weatherall called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. with the following members present: Chief P. Parisi, Chief P. Nikas, C. Surpitski, D. Morris, T. Jones, K. Buhl, H. Schwartz, J. Fay, P. Dziadose, R. Donahue, and J. Emerson. Also present were the new Town Manager Stephen Crane, Ted Gallante and Kayla Gallo and Brian Elyo (TGAS, architectural firm), J. Sarni (Design Review Board), M. Delai (Climate Resiliency Committee), and in Joe Sullivan's absence, Alysa of CHA.

CITIZEN QUERIES

None.

DISCUSSION ON SCHEMATIC DESIGN

CHA is working on the cost estimate and will have it ready sometime next week. Every month that goes by increases the price of the project, and they are making sure that everything wanted for this building will be accomplished.

There had been no posting on the agenda for a vote to be taken re approval of the schematic design. While Bob spoke of general agreement and a seeking of milestones and manipulations with a follow-up plan, Jamie disagreed and felt that it must have approval or disapproval so that it is a contractual record. Ted spoke of formalities with the schematic design to work out and opinions/recommendations on the designs. Bob wished to hear the presentation for the evening, set a meeting date after Thanksgiving, and, if it is the sense of the committee, do the vote then.

Ted referred to site work and the rise in cost of electric, HVAC, and critical operations of the system, some of which will be available next week. Mr. Crane commented re how we get from schematic design to schematic development in an unpredictable market. There is value in hearing what that progress looks like. He would rather talk it through and then, when we get a cost list, go through that. Chief Nikas urged pushing forward for the sake of the moving pieces and maybe not a vote yet. The two Chiefs are working together and there is a need to keep going. Mr. Crane added that he has seen (in other places) that "design development" is when approvals are forthcoming.

To John Sarni's question about meeting with the Planning Board, Bob spoke of plans for showing them what we are doing and what has been done.

Bob affirmed that once this meeting is over, there will be a sense of what will be acceptable. The group viewed slides while Ted explained, including the tower which will be recommended at 80' from the ground up. Stormwater runoff is being worked on. Trees and greenery will be an important part of the whole picture. In building design development, while

height requirements for the Fire Department do not change, Ted described the mezzanine level, which is 5' lower than the Police section. There is no critical structure in the basement. Pervious/impervious ground surfaces behind the facility were addressed in regard to the wetland and possible flooding. Tammy felt uncomfortable with police cars sitting outside when they should be garaged.

To Mr. Sarni's comment that the design does not "look like Ipswich," Bob replied that there is no such thing! Ted brought up the pictorial of Choate Bridge, commenting on the pale brick and the arches which will be incorporated in the PSFC design. Comments were made once more of the month delay and the need to be more clear with the deadlines.

NEXT MEETINGS

The group focused on future meetings: Ted will reconcile the week after Thanksgiving. The Working Group will check in on Zoom on November 30. Ted questioned "if the numbers for the project come up high"; the Town Manager, "if the numbers are close", and Tammy, "if we want to give a provisional 'ok' so that we're not waiting until December 6" following that Zoom meeting. PSFC will be meeting on December 6.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chief Parisi moved, seconded by Kendall, to approve Minutes of October 26, 2022. UNANIMOUS.

ADJOURNMENT

Chief Parisi moved, seconded by Kendall, to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. UNANIMOUS.