

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE

Via ZOOM

JUNE 23, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robert Weatherall called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. with the following members present: R. Donahue, P. Polonsky, L. Alexson, K. Carlson, Chief P. Nikas, C. Surpitski, H. Schwartz, and J. Emerson. Absent were Chief A. Theriault, P. Dziadose, T. Jones, and J. Fay.

CITIZEN QUERIES

Seth Perry, resident of Linebrook Road, had no questions but wanted to listen to the discussion at the meeting.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETING INFORMATION

Bob announced that the Town Meeting will be held on the field at the Ipswich High/Middle School at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 27, 2020. The Town election will be held on Tuesday, June 30. Bob went on to review his report to be made at Town Meeting adding comments/additions which some members had made, keeping it short as requested by the Town Moderator. Included will be mention of schematic drawings of the new facility on Linebrook Rd. to ICAM and the public-safety website.

ARCHITECT'S REPORT ON PRELIMINARY SCHEMATICS FOR LINEBROOK/PINE SWAMP ROAD SITE

Janet Slemenda of HKT presented the conceptual layout and grading plan for Linebrook Rd. with a four-bay building for fire engines and elevation at two levels of 14' each. While it will cost more, spaces can be created for police and fire boats and other vehicles under the fire engine bays. Bob advocated for structural slab in building design with the fire facility.

Janet described in detail the need for retaining walls and grading because the 12-acre site is sloping downward from Linebrook Rd. Ample parking space is planned for police and fire personnel behind the building on Pine Swamp Road. Parking for visitors adjacent to the facility and provision for church attendants across the road next to the church were discussed. Bob suggested that a good approach for showing design would be to show only what is necessary and accentuate areas of green space. Linda questioned the driveway entrance on Pine Swamp Rd. as the only entrance/exit for police and visitors and discussion ensued about making it wider. Under-cover parking for police vehicles was mentioned as a benefit as well.

Charlie wanted to know if there was space in the immediate police area for privacy for a distressed person. Bob asked about people engagement. Janet assured them both that there are areas for both circumstances, and Chief Nikas said that there would be someone in the lobby 24/7. Charlie asked about the Shellfish and Animal Control areas; Janet replied that they will be in the police section on the second floor; Chief Nikas added that Shellfish and Harbors will share space as they do now. To Paul P.'s question of where the emergency generator will be, Janet explained where it (the size of a schoolbus) would go along with the wiring, etc. He also inquired about Fire Department permit requests by residents and was told that they would

go to the community area upstairs (there will be an elevator). The main fire building has only one entrance on Linebrook for fire apparatus.

Bob noted that good things are happening with the grading and the placement of the buildings. Janet noted that the down-sloping grade of the 12-acre property allows for grading development of the landscape with south-facing rooftops for potential sunroofs. Janet said that the engineers will take into account the melting snows and heavy rains in the design of retaining walls, etc. Linda suggested the capture of rainwater to use for landscaping. Bob commented that these elevation renderings on the website would be important to have Ipswich residents see on the website.

Janet asked committee members about materials for construction—wooden, brick, masonry. She said that constructing in all masonry is not as large a price jump as it had been. She showed three elevation depictions of the whole facility: very modern, traditional mode with more glass, and with different heights on the fire building and Public Safety entrances. Bob spoke of the discussions that the committee should have relative to building construction, the design of the buildings, the landscape and the hardscape. Bob and Rob liked the hand-drawn sketches which Janet had drawn.

Janet will send Bob a memo regarding her next steps on renderings and modeling of a proposed building. She will look at her budget to see about shifting some engineering costs on to modeling work, as modeling on the 3D computer was removed from her contract by the Town Manager. Members think modeling is more valuable at this point than more work by engineers on heating, cooling, concrete walls, etc. At the next meeting, which will depend on when Janet sends the computer files, discussion will take place on style, materials, etc.

DISCUSSION RE PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT WITH THE CHURCH

Linda reported that the TM had sent her and others an email regarding his asking the Select Board for their approval to let him sign a purchase/sale agreement with the Church. Following discussion, the committee felt that the TM's idea for taking a \$10,000 deposit from his office funds was a good one so that the land will be held until a Town Meeting vote and the Archdiocese can be satisfied. Rob moved, and it was seconded, to support the Town Manager's ability, with support from the Select Board, to sign a P&A agreement with the church. Roll call vote: Weatherall, Donahue, Polonsky, Alexson, Carlson, Nikas, Surpitski, Schwartz.

Charlie amended, and it was seconded, that once the Town Manager signs a P&A, the land can only be used by the Town for a public safety building. Roll call vote: Weatherall, Donahue, Polonsky, Alexson, Carlson, Nikas, Surpitski, Schwartz.

ADJOURNMENT

Pending the next meeting upon the architect's completion of design files, it was moved and seconded to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. Roll call vote: Weatherall, Donahue, Polonsky, Alexson, Carlson, Nikas, Surpitski, Schwartz.