

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE
via Zoom
August 4, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Harvey Schwartz called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. with the following members present: R. Donahue, T. Jones, C. Surpitski, Chief A. Theriault, R. McShera, K. Carlson, Det. P. Ddziadose, J. Emerson, and Chief P. Nikas. Absent were R. Weatherall, L. Alexson, P. Polonsky, and J. Fay.

CITIZEN QUERIES

Michael Johnson of the Climate Resiliency Committee informed PSFC that they would be submitting their climate resolution to the Select Board next month. It is a project for municipal governments to adopt a “net zero energy standard” for their new buildings by 2040. He emphasized early discussions by PSFC with the architect. Rob and Ryan both agreed with the premise of incorporating “green” design early-on in the design process, including “envelope technology”, renewable energy, and solar arrays. Mike questioned whether PSFC had considered looking into geo thermal heating. He mentioned the benefits of ground heat pumps, insulation and day-lighting (windows). Harvey asked Mike if his group intended to push for mandatory enforcement by the Select Board. Mike is hoping that, if the municipal government approves, the rest of the community will develop incentives to promote green technology. Tammy assured him that the Select Board is supportive in meeting the town’s efficiency codes.

UPDATE ON SCHEMATICS

Chief Nikas reported that the Town Manager and Janet of HKT had worked out her budget so that she could focus on modeling work. Following the recommendations by PSFC members, she will move the actual design closer to Pine Swamp Road using the preferred modern conceptual design. Heating and cooling sustainable options are being studied and, due to time constrictions, she will work on this immediately.

DISCUSSION ON STRATEGIES WITH THE PUBLIC

Videos/tours/other opportunities. Chief Nikas had submitted script commentary to members which will accompany six videos, in 3-5 minute segments, of the police facilities including outside, lobby, holding/booking areas, offices, lockers, maintenance, evidence, and storage. Chief Theriault reported videos will be taken of the fire facility once the script is done. Once reviewed by volunteers (Harvey, Ryan, Rob, Peter and Jean), they will go on the website and on ICAM.

Rob wishes to have some type of video presented @ Town Meeting on October 17. Tammy pressed the need for a price for the facility or at least a placeholder of “not to exceed \$_____” because the Town Warrant closes (for Town Meeting) on August 24. Once the override is passed, construction design comes next. Keeping within the footprint, the building might still change dramatically. To Charlie’s question whether Janet had any experience relative

to a bid and actually doing the project, Chief Nikas replied that she does: the conceptual design comes first, trying to keep the cost estimate high, and during the 18-month period following, the designing/building will vary. The Town Manager seems to be very comfortable with the project, having overseen the building of one in Hanover before coming to Ipswich. The OPM is told to stay under the cost price.

The group further discussed the “going green” as expensive. Nikas remarked that Janet says “net zero” is almost impossible with this type of building. This project, because the State does not mandate nor provide monies as with a school building, will involve the Town and its people. Tammy suggested that the Town Manager be invited to participate in PSFC’s next meeting regarding the maximum amount the town can tolerate. The TM doesn’t want to lose the land under any circumstances and will help. While it could be a “hard sell”, the group discussed meeting with Conservation Committee and Planning Committee early, before the Warrant Article. Following that, until the October 17 Town Meeting, PSFC will meet with other boards.

Chief Nikas announced that the wetlands on the property were staked out about ten days ago. Within five years, he said, police cars will be electric with charging stations in the parking lot. Solar panels on the top of the building and even over parking area structure would be advantageous to efficiency. The Chief assumes that HKT will give us options.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tammy moved, seconded by Harvey, to approve Minutes of July 21, 2020. Roll call IN FAVOR- Donahue, Carlson, Nikas, Schwartz, Jones, Dziadose, Emerson. Abstaining: Surpitski, Theriault, McShera.

NEXT MEETING

The group will meet on August 18 via Zoom at 7 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Peter moved, seconded by Harvey, to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Roll call IN FAVOR- Donahue, Carlson, Nikas, Jones, Schwartz, Dziadose, Surpitski, Theriault, McShera, Emerson.