

IPSWICH PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE
MARCH 28, 2023
RESOURCE ROOM, TOWN HALL

CALL TO ORDER

Chair R. Weatherall called the meeting to order at 6:07 with the following members present: Chief P. Parisi, Chief P. Nikas, H. Schwartz, P. Dziadose, R. Donahue, C. Surpitski, K. Buhl, J. Fay, J. Emerson, Town Manager S. Crane, T. Gallante and Krista Karklins (TGAS) and L. Jolly (CHA). Absent were D. Irvine and T. Jones.

PRESENTATION OF DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

With projections on the wall, Ted spoke about design work, and the four rolls of the complete design document were presented to the Committee. Site design update with parking design for police/fire and tree preservation now shows impervious surfaces which surround the rear of the building. Future canopies over the parking area (an add-alternate at this point) are projected while still looking at the \$21,500,000 figure. Bob mentioned that Town funding with electrical lighting array will be possible. The two Chiefs were satisfied that fire and police traffic will flow well in this plan. Chief Parisi mentioned the ability for fire apparatus to back into the building without holding up traffic on Linebrook Road, and the ability for apparatus to drive to the back of the building is satisfactory. The new plan keeps vehicles away from the wet zones (behind the building). Rob asked about his concern re wheelchair access and was told that there are two out front and one at the back of the building. There was discussion re electric vehicle parking spaces. Jamie Fay moved, seconded by Chief Nikas, to approve this new iteration of the exterior plan of the building. UNANIMOUS.

Ted said that the cost of photovoltaic payback may be the best investment as opposed to geo-thermal which could be very much more expensive. The overall cost estimate is due in two weeks. Bob said in all these descriptions, it is a difficult site to drill the wells (for geo-thermal) given that the management of the water already on the property is enormous. Geo-thermal under the apparatus bays and elsewhere does not do anything about the by-product water created by geo-thermal. Kendall asked, and was told, that the advantage of geo-thermal is less electricity cost but is more expensive to install: Geo-thermal @\$2,300,000 vs Solar @\$476,800. Bob commented that the budget does not allow for the purchase of geo-thermal, and Town Mgr. Crane agreed that the money is not available.

Bob felt responsible for having slowed down the process and now feels that we should move forward with the solar-array system. The challenge also, is that we don't have photovoltaic arrays in the budget, but trust that we could design with that in mind. Krista remarked that the building will be built "solar ready" for when the funding is found. Jamie doesn't want anybody to feel that this is a loss by taking this action; it will be "super-efficient" and at some point, this town may have renewal electricity. Nick Fair, consultant who spoke at the last meeting, convinced Bob and others. Rob moved, seconded by Harvey, that geo-thermal be removed as an addition. UNANIMOUS.

Janet Craft of the Shade Tree and Beautification Committee, spoke about three mature elm trees which exist on the building site and is concerned that they will be removed and replaced with smaller ones. Rob responded that the site plan is identifying the existing trees, and Ted has promised to study the elms she speaks of as well as the trees on the east border of the site.

Ted spoke of the fourth bay. Jamie asked for the price of the bay before voting on the whole package. The Select Board has accepted the recommendation allowing projecting for two purposes: keeping the fourth bay and avoiding additional cuts to the project. If the fourth bay is in and we get the other estimates, Mr. Crane suggested memorializing it. Rob suggested voting at the next meeting in two weeks. Mr. Crane was confused at the reluctance to approve, whereupon Kendall moved to accept the \$2 million with gratitude to make the fourth bay a part of the base bid, seconded by Charlie. Vote was UNANIMOUS except for Jamie who voted Opposed.

The outside of the structure was depicted, and Ted explained that it would be reviewed thoroughly at the next meeting including energy codes. Jamie wanted to understand that the development process is not costing while changes are made and left at 7:30 p.m. for FinCom meeting. Ted continued with date-planning: March 29--Conservation Commission; Planning Board--April 3; mid-April deadline for site lighting. He continued with the next steps to finalize some of the elevations and material designs, landscaping, and plans with the neighbors.

Looking ahead, Bob confirmed that a meeting on April 12 will deal with cost-estimate updates, building materials, and schedule updates. Kendall looks forward to fine tuning, placement of essentials, and the layout of the kitchen. By the end of July add-alternatives should be finalized. Bob asked about canopies over vehicles, hopefully with electric lighting. Ted wants to design the canopies, and foundations (conduits) could be in the ground so that the Town can do the work. CHA works with the rest of the outside electric process as an alternate. Bob commented that we must be thinking about the training tower with diplomacy and informing the Select Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chief Parisi moved, seconded by Rob, to approve Minutes of March 7, 2023. UNANIMOUS with Peter, Kendall, and Charlie abstaining.

NEXT MEETING

PSFC will meet on April 12.

ADJOURNMENT

Kendall moved, seconded by Charlie, to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. UNANIMOUS.