

IPSWICH PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE  
3/19/19  
TOWN HALL ROOM B2

CALL TO ORDER

Chair R. Weatherall called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with the following members present: Chief A. Theriault, K. Carlson, P. Polonsky, Chief Nikas, H. Schwartz, P. Dziadose, L. Alexson, C. Surpitski, T. Jones, and J. Emerson. Absent were R. Donahue and R. McShera.

CITIZEN QUERIES

None.

DISCUSSION WITH ARCHITECTURAL FIRM HEAD JANET SLEMENDA, HKT

Janet Slemenda explained the time frame which has elapsed since the January 9 meeting of the group who voted for her firm, HKT. There were matters to be settled with the Town Manager in regard to the firm's contract.

She had visited police and fire headquarters on this day with Chiefs Nikas and Theriault and some of the police and fire personnel, having tours of the current facilities. She distributed to PSFC a draft of the schedules delineating tasks with approximate dates for starting and completion, and she will prepare a summary report within 1 ½ weeks of tonight's discussion. While she spoke, she projected space needs, site investigations and options for development with pictures, words, and diagrams. In an effort to establish transparency and inclusiveness, she posted four questions on the opposite wall, asking members to write their three most important answers for each of the four questions. She then shared the group's postings and discussion took place as follows:

Question 1: What do you see as the best outcome for this study? A completed project of one, two, or renovated buildings and support by the community were important to the group. Every year of waiting, she commented, escalates the cost by 3.8 %.

Question 2: What problems exist? Site selection, cost of the project, and support by the community. Janet stated that a combined facility is definitely cheaper to build and maintain than two buildings.

Question 3: What about the present facilities? Age and smallness of the buildings was a big factor along with the lack of technology and mandated requirements. Old-fashioned stations must be stabilized with an added elevator.

Question 4: Critical details? In discussion, energy saving and sustainable buildings were important along with having the support of all Town Boards (having had meetings together).

Open discussion followed: The perception that a great deal of money will be spent on other town efforts coming up: \$150 million already underway with public works projects. Other Town information and community outreach opportunities were mentioned. She urged members and others to use their cameras to let people know what is going on with the police and fire departments. Bob spoke of the Department of REcreation Kerry Bates' interest in using a new facility space for her programs. Also mentioned was getting town volunteers and subgroups together in a common cause for sustainability. Having community space in a police facility where "cooling" and "warming" areas would be available for neighbors in emergencies is necessary. Residents and visitors to Town would like public toilets. Residents in outlying areas (the Neck, the Country Club, and Turner Hill) must be made aware of plans so that they can be brought on board.

Ambulance services were discussed. Private ambulance service is coming and people would interface with public safety for medical services and the need for ambulances.

Several possible sites were mentioned, and site selection will be the major topic for discussion at the next meeting on March 26 at 7 p.m. Janet recommended that five acres is the optimal acreage for buildings and parking areas for a combined facility. Ideal location for response times from the fire facility remains between Elm Street and Lord Square.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Harvey moved, seconded by Bob, to approve Minutes of January 3 and January 9, 2019, as written. UNANIMOUS.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Bob moved, seconded by Harvey, to adjourn at 9:39 p.m. UNANIMOUS.