

**PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE**  
**AUGUST 24, 2021**  
**RESOURCE ROOM, TOWN HALL**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair R. Weatherall called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. Attending were L. Alexson, T. Jones, H. Schwartz, D. Morris, Acting Fire Chief L. Prentiss, R. Donahue, P. Dziadose, and J. Emerson. Absent: Chief P. Nikas, J. Fay, R. Harb, K. Carlson, and C. Surpitski.

**CITIZEN QUERIES**

Bob welcomed two gentlemen from the community. Ken Swenson, Linebrook Road, suggested comparing our town project with those of the towns around Ipswich. Also, discussion of the question “What if we don’t do this?” to the residents. There is a lot more than the well-being and comfort of these people who occupy these spaces currently. He was invited to speak at Town Meeting by Bob, Harvey, and Linda. Bob educated Ken re the comparison sheet of like situations with public safety in neighboring towns which Chief Nikas had put together.

John Sarni, Little Neck, spoke to his reasons for coming. While he supports the retention of the current fire facility, he wondered where the money would come from to support restoration/change and is interested in being on the committee to work on the old fire station. He was assured by several members that people in town look kindly on restoration projects.

**DISCUSSION/DECISIONS**

Bob announced that the Warrant for the October 16 Special Town Meeting has been presented by the Select Board to take place on the High School football field. Very valuable fact sheets are out. The targets for the Congregational Church meeting on 9/7/21 are three: the nature of actual Public Safety work in this town now, articulating what is the worst that could happen, and the financial situation. Peter will speak to Eric Copithorne about projecting the videos that have been taken of the two present facilities.

The School Committee Chair’s letter of support for the new PS facility was published in [Ipswich Local News](#) (8/25/21). With Rob at the whiteboard, the group outlined a tentative time list and potential speakers for support:

- 9/1 Select Board meeting– Tammy
- 9/8 Finance Committee meeting– Bob W. and Jamie Fay
- 9/15 Police – Peter Dziadose
- 9/22 Fire – Jeff Stone, Fire Union President
- 9/29 Communications – Dan Morris
- 10/6 Joint Chiefs and Retired Chiefs (speak to Fin Com/Select Board?)
- 10/13 Public Safety Facility Committee

Other venues to consider:

Council on Aging; Historic (Bob W); Resilience (Bob, Mike Johnson); Planning (Bob); REuse Committee ; Citizens in support; Businesses in support

Possible citizens to write letters:

Jim Engel; Josh Cummings; Ken Swenson; Retired school personnel (Cooper, Hopping, Loeb); business people (Jake Rogers; ANNtiques, Mike Jones, Sue Brengle, Mark Baker {Tedford's})

Info sheets on the questions:

What is the need?

What is the plan?

What is the cost?

Who uses the facility?

Outreach meetings scheduled:

9/7 First Church, 7 p.m.

9/15 COA, 10 a.m.

9/21 Lady of Hope Church, 7 p.m.

10/5 Caroline Avenue/Agawam Village, 7 p.m.

TBD : Yacht Club; Masonic Lodge (Tammy); Ipswich Outboard Club (Rob, Dave M.); Country Club; Turner Hill (Tammy); tours at the Fire and Police Stations (9/18); FRIES/School; Reverse 911 (Peter); Churches, Lodges (Harvey, Bob).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Harvey moved, seconded by Tammy, to approve Minutes of August 10, 2021.

UNANIMOUS.

ADJOURNMENT

Tammy moved, seconded by Harvey, to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m. UNANIMOUS.