

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE

Via Zoom

January 26, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chair R. Weatherall called the meeting to order at 7:09 with the following members present: R. Donahue, Chief A. Theriault, H. Schwartz, J. Fay, C. Surpitski, Chief P. Nikas, P. Polonsky, P. Dziadose, K. Carlson, J. Emerson. Absent: L. Alexson, T. Jones, R. McShera.

CITIZEN QUERIES

None.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS AT TOWN MEETING

Referring to two documents sent via internet to members from Janet Slemenda, HKT architect, Bob asked that members read and submit any comments. He made reference to letters and Facebook comments by residents. Janet and her team will be sketching slopes on the Pine Swamp property and will attend the next PSFC meeting.

In comments regarding the recent TriBoard meeting when certain PSFC members were in attendance, Bob stated that the School Committee Chair Chub Whitten was in support of the manner in which PSFC has worked on their proposal for a new facility and suggested that the Committee bring the project to a School Committee meeting for support in public session. Jamie Fay was disappointed with his fellow Fin Com members in their failure to be assertive with the PSFC and their discussion re one elementary school in a diversion from the subject at hand. Bob agreed and told the PSFC that the school superintendent said "even if SC goes to the State asking for funding, there is no guarantee that we are immediately in line." Further, the schools have no site.

Rob said our next set of letters to the press should be in regard to response times and sites that had been studied with reasons why they were rejected. Chief Paul said that Janet S. had commented that bids by contractors were incredibly low at this time, another point to bring School Committee and Finance Committee in favor of our project.

The group made a list of items to be accomplished:

1. Chief Theriault will assemble response times with the new site vs. the current site.
2. Charlie, Jean and Chief Nikas provide a list of sites studied/discarded.
3. Janet of HKT attends PSFC meeting on Zoom.
4. PSFC will attend a School Committee meeting in an effort to align all our views so that the PS building complex is built prior to a new elementary school.
5. List the advantages of the Pine Swamp site.
6. Attend the Finance Committee meeting following the School Committee meeting to get Finance Committee support.
8. Education of the residents re timing to build.

Following discussion about going for the project in the spring or fall once again where each member was asked for an opinion, the majority chose the Fall Town Meeting for the following reasons:

1. Budget season and Warrant Articles taking up winter meetings of Finance and School Committees
2. Availability of a full report on response times by the Fire Department
3. Agreement and advocacy by the fire and police unions
4. Final report from the architect on items needed by the personnel.

Paul P. asked if anybody has reached out to people's comments on the internet. Rob felt that the committee should look into forming a political action committee if it is allowed. Peter's wife, a marketing professional, suggested making a calendar of items that lead up to the Town Meeting. It was felt that Chief Theriault should lead off ICAM presentations with response times.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Harvey moved, seconded by Charlie, to approve Minutes of December 15, 2020, as amended. Roll call IN FAVOR- R. Donahue, H. Schwartz, J. Fay, K. Carlson, J. Emerson, A. Theriault, P. Dziadose, C. Surpitski, P. Polonsky, and P. Nikas. R. Weatherall abstained.

NEXT MEETING

On February 23, 2021, PSFC will meet on Zoom with Janet Slemenda. Janet's report needs to be read by the members and comments sent direct to Bob, then go to the Select Board.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bob said that Ryan is moving to Rowley and questioned adding a person to take his seat. Anyone with ideas should give Bob a call. Most felt that Ryan could remain if he chose to.

ADJOURNMENT

Charlie moved, seconded by Rob, to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Roll call IN FAVOR- R. Donahue, R. Weatherall, Chief Theriault, J. Fay, C. Surpitski, H. Schwartz, P. Dziadose, K. Carlson, P. Polonsky, Chief Nikas, J. Emerson.