



TOWN OF FREETOWN

Police Sub-Committee

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J. Brown

Meeting Minutes - Thursday, July 26, 2018

A meeting of the Police Sub-Committee was held on Thursday, July 26, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m, at the Council on Aging, 227 Chace Road, East Freetown.

PRESENT: Lisa Pacheco, Chairwoman; David DeManche, Town Administrator, Carlton Abbott, Chief of Police, Sgt. Benjamin Levesque, Officer Mark Fornaciari, Robert Jose, Mary Rezendes-Brown.

ALSO PRESENT: Taylor MacDonald (Pomroy Associates), Andy DiGiammo and Dan Tavares (CGA)

ABSENT: Paul Sadeck, Charlie Sullivan

This meeting was recorded by FREECAM

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Ms. Pacheco. Ms. Pacheco turns over meeting to Mr. MacDonald . Mr. MacDonald states the purpose of this meeting is to present the updated PowerPoint Presentation, along with Schedule and Owner Updates.

Mr. Macdonald turns over the meeting to Mr. DiGiammo

TOPIC: Updated Powerpoint Presentation

Mr. Digiammo presents an updated PowerPoint presentation. As presented in the original PowerPoint presentation, the shortcoming of the present police station building are detailed. In this updated presentation, the updates focus on the lack of work space: Issue of using the staff break room to serve as a training room, weapons cleaning space, report writing space, and meeting space. Lack of evidence storage, ammunition storage, proper toilets, proper locker rooms, (no female locker rooms), no storage area for administration, is not equipped with a fire service line, no proper smoke detection system and has handicap violations. The attic space is being used for storage, and as the trusses in the attic are not designed for storage, it creates a fire hazard.

The outdated prisoner holding cells have suicide hazards as identified by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health; toilet fixtures without anti-suicide skirts, bench holes, bed supports exposed, gap between bench and wall, slits and sink spouts, and the food slots are accessible in the cells.

The current building has existing walls made of plain concrete blocks filled with vermiculite insulation, this absorbs moisture, causing multiple issues. The current building is not conducive to receive a second level due to it having no vertical circulation, i.e., no stairs or elevator. The geometry of the plan is linear which does not lend well to additions, and the building is not receptive to plumbing lines under the existing slab on grade.

New station is designed for longevity and low maintenance. The Community Room can be utilized for multiple uses, i.e. officer training room, an Emergency Operation Command center utilized by police and fire during an emergency. The station would be centrally located, is close to the elementary school, has reasonable response time, and has separate police/prisoner and public entrance. The land use is comparable for the area and it has reasonable traffic conditions. The cons of the project is the land has large boulders, slopes upwards from Chase Road, requires retaining wall construction and has no town water, sewer or natural gas.

A big plus is the that if we are forced to install an elevator and existing police building can remain in service while the new building is under construction, therefore the town does not have to pay for temporary services.

Chief Abbott questions if the presentation should be labeled "new police station & community room", as the community room can serve multiple purposes for the town, not the police department exclusively.

Research on the actual cost to the average taxpayer is ongoing.

Mrs. Rezendez-Brown states the committee must be careful when stating the current building cannot be renovated as the town may want to renovate it for another purpose in the near future.

Ms. Pacheco questions when the committee can start formalizing the informational meeting. Mr. DiGiammo answers that a Videographer needs to be retained. Ms. Pacheco states the video portion should ideally be done within the next 3 weeks, allowing Informational Meetings to take place prior to the Town Meeting.

Ms. Pacheco states we have a construction start date of 10/29 and a Special Town Meeting on 10/22. The town meeting is a continent approval, followed by Debt Exclusion approval. If approval is not given, this project is null and void, though the project can be proposed again within a certain amount of time.

TOPIC: Owner/Vendor Updates

Mr. MacDonald states he and the Chief have started the process for radio communication bids, which is the biggest communication expense, and the plan is to get some numbers before the General Construction bids come in. Discussion with furniture vendors has begun as well.

Mr. MacDonald suggests waiting till we have a video to review prior to scheduling the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Sgt. Levesque to adjourn meeting, Seconded by Officer Mark Fornaciari. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

This is a true record by me



Attest: Catrina Goncalves
Recordings Clerk