



TOWN OF FREETOWN

Police Sub-Committee

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J. Brown

Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, January 3, 2018

A meeting of the Police Sub-Committee was held on Wednesday, January 3, 2018, 5:30 PM at the Council on Aging, 227 Chace Road, East Freetown.

PRESENT: Lisa Pacheco, Chairwoman; Town Administrator David DeManche, Chief of Police, Carlton Abbott, Officer Mark Fornaciari, Sgt. Benjamin Levesque, Mary Rezendez-Brown, Charlie Sullivan, Paul Sadeck

ALSO PRESENT: Taylor MacDonald (Pomroy Associates); Andy DiGiammo (CGA)

ABSENT: Robert Jose

This meeting was recorded by FREECAM.

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Pacheco stated there will be a meeting Friday morning regarding the estimate of bringing in the Water Line, as it is priced at 5 million, a lot higher than anticipated. The major cost being asphaltting the road, which encompasses a Railroad Crossing, estimated to be at 2 Million. Chief Abbot, stated the Highway Surveyor planned to asphalt Chace Road, so the cost should be reduced. Mr. Sadeck stated the amount of 2 Million should be adjusted from the total estimate.

Mr. MacDonald presented a schedule update, the schedule includes placeholders regarding the future dates of the special Town Meetings, Joint Meetings and Public Forums. A PowerPoint presentation would include the design, budget alongside presentations by FINCOM and D.O.S. (Department of Safety). Estimate number should be early March and we should probably present the estimate in mid March in the public forum. In April, special town meeting followed by a ballot vote in April.

Officer Fornaciari suggested using the Officers Room at the police station for a public forum, thereby allowing the public to see the condition of the station. Taking into account the size of the room and the number of people attending, it was suggested by Mr. Sullivan that a walkthrough be done prior to the meeting held at another location.

Mr. MacDonald stated he spoke to Jim about the police radio proposal. Jim's radio estimate was priced at \$15,000, and today Jim confirmed he would honor the Town approved radio budget of \$9,000.

Mr. DiGiammo stated he had meetings with the design team consultants and Nate from GGD. Although, Nate has not followed up with a design, they did some extensive regrading in order to reduce the retaining walls, along with removing some parking spaces, which reduces some

of the cost of paving, including reducing the cost of Sub-Surface draining. The one thing that was discovered was more than half of the drainage from the school roof flows back to the site. The issue is that the Culvert is undersized based on the size of the area it is draining. The Culvert needs to be increased and/or replaced, which would prevent an overflow of water in the road.

Mr. DiGiammo presented a video depicting the existing site plan, which shows some vents coming out of the ground, which could be there due to leaching the field. Mr. DiGiammo stated Nate should have a final site plan in a couple of weeks.

Ms. Pacheco stated a carpet color had been chosen after the last meeting, and questioned if we have any plans for the selection of the furnishings. Mr. MacDonald stated they have worked with WB Mason in the past, who have specialized experience in furnishing public safety buildings. Ms. Pacheco stated furniture choices should be durable and practical.

Ms. Pacheco stated it is very important to promote the project correctly as we get closer to the Town Meeting. The Committee's efforts to save money should be noted as well as a question and answer section during a Public Forum. Chief Abbott suggesting taking photos of the police station, depicting the condition and lack of resources and put together a PowerPoint presentation and video.

Mrs. Rezendez-Brown stated people are not aware of the condition of the police station, as most residents would not have the opportunity to view the station, as opposed to residents who have access to the public schools due to the number of parents/family members of school children. The project must be presented to the residents showing the public safety benefits prior to the Ballot Vote. The committee members should also make an effort to be consistent with the information given to the residents by either phone calls or questions and answers during Public Forums.

Mr. MacDonald stated it is important to present how policing has changed, balancing existing conditions with tax increases, and the overall cost of the project.


Ms. Pacheco stated the Town should gather figures on the current energy costs, and the savings of those costs due to a new energy efficient building. Lastly, as other towns have built new stations, if we do not build, not only would it cost more by waiting, we would have to rely on other communities as we lack the resources to be independent.

Next meeting scheduled for February 5, 2018.

MOTION

Motion to adjourn made by Officer Fornaciari, seconded by Sgt. Levesque, unanimously passed.

This is a true record by me:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Catrina', is written over a horizontal line.

Attest: Catrina Gonçalves
Recordings Clerk