

**Police Station Building Committee
Public Forum Meeting Minutes
Carver Library Meeting Room
December 3, 2018
6:00pm**

Committee Members Present: Bill Harriman, Chief Marc Duphily, Dave Robertson, Dave Siedentopf, Bryan Berriault, Jon Delli Priscoli, Michael Milanoski
Also, Owners Project Manager Joe Sullivan

Guests: Approximately 80 residents

Meeting opened 6:05 pm by Dave Robertson. David provided a comprehensive overview of the history, progress, decisions, and recommendations of the Committee to date. About 35 minutes (copy attached). It was a difficult presentation because of constant interruption from audience with questions, even though it was made clear the questions should be held for the individual segments.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the posted agenda stated that those present would break down into 4 much smaller groups (a charrette) in an attempt to create a more personal connection between the committee members and the community. It would also provide much better visual comprehension of the plans being presented and a more personal touch for everybody. However, the audience preferred individual presentations to the entire group so all questions and comments could be heard by everybody. Dave Robertson agreed to this request.

Bill Harriman discussed factors and thought process for the committee's decision to move forward with a one a one story facility for the new Police Station.

David Siedentopf and Officer Brian Berriault discussed site locations initially reviewed and why they did not meet Police Department objectives.

Jon Deli Prescolli and David Robertson made a presentation on the overall plan for the entire Town Hall Complex, and why the committee felt that at this time, a more comprehensive look at the entire campus was a wise choice.

Chief Marc Duphily made a closing presentation on why the particular site at the playground was the correct decision, and why it is by far the best choice for a new Police Station.

All four stations prompted many questions and comments by those in attendance which committee members attempted to provide accurate information for.

The obvious focal point of many residents present appeared to be the removal and relocation of the current playground on the north side of the library. Reasons for the need to locate the Police Station at the playground site were presented and explained by many Committee members throughout the evening including the site was not large enough to support the current department and their future growth, would not be as visible, and most importantly that sex offenders are required to visit the police station and register as a sex offender if they are living or working in the town. This would mean as described by Officer Berriault that sex offenders would be walking by and parking next to the playground without restrictions given that would be the public access to the building. This was not acceptable to law enforcement nor to the committee and determined the playground and police station are not compatible adjacent to each other given the nature of the “special cliental” that visit the police station. It was explained by Committee members that an updated playground equal to or better than the current playground would be developed and located on the Town Hall Campus.

There was little question that those in attendance were in favor of our Police Department getting a facility that is much needed and deserved.

There were no votes taken by the Committee at this forum. The committee was scheduled to meet the next day at 4pm and deliberate on what they heard, prior to making presentation to the Board of Selectmen.

The forum was closed at 9:45 pm with approximately 30 hearty souls still in attendance when the question “Are there any other questions” received no response.