

Princeton MA Public Safety Building Committee Meeting Minutes  
July 26, 2021, 5:30 PM, Town Hall Annex

Members present: Ian Catlow, John Zimmatore, Carl Soderberg, David Crowley, Felicitas Fandreyer  
Others present: Michelle Powers, John Bennett, Matthew Moncreaff, Ricky Thebeau, Sherry Patch  
Others online: Holly Burgess, Linda Nash, Matt Lindberg

The meeting began at 5:04 pm as a hybrid meeting. Mr. Catlow opened with an invitation for public comment which resulted in no comments. A review of the proposed PSB Program and spaces followed. Ms. Burgess asked what the biggest areas of cost reduction would be which was answered by Mr. Soderberg who clarified that essential areas were highest on cost. In his research, he reports that he found that prefab options save money and that FEMA provides grant money for generators. He was advised that Princeton recently obtained such a grant and generator. A discussion continued regarding the necessary amount of bunk rooms and if any could be added to Station 2. Chief Bennett feels that at some point there will be an overnight shift and bunks will be used regularly for that and moving some bunks to Station 2 is a good option. A motion was made to reduce the bunk rooms to 2. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

The necessity of 2 Sally Ports for parking the police vehicles was discussed and Chief Powers advised the group that currently cruisers need to be kept running around the clock in cold weather as during emergencies there is no time to wait for a windshield to defrost and EMS equipment can't be frozen. She also described some of the large items that might need to be stored in the large item evidence area. No changes were advised for these areas. The spaces for Radio com and PD storage were reviewed with no changes advised. The mechanical, electrical, and generator transfer room were discussed. Mr. Catlow suggested outdoor access for the generator transfer equipment. A motion was made to move the Radio com space into the generator transfer room.

Mr. Moncreaff suggested enlarging one of the Sergeant's offices and eliminating the detective's office. Chief Powers told the committee that although Princeton currently does not have a detective, it could use one now. Discussion regarding office spaces was tabled to move on to plans for the fitness room. An alternate location of the mezzanine over the fire truck bays for the fitness room was discussed, which would leave room for the EOC where the fitness room was originally planned. A motion was made to move the EOC to the fitness room area and leave the mezzanine to be set up at the discretion of the fire chief. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

A discussion regarding an alternative site across the street on Boylston Ave from the current proposed site was brought up. Per Mr. Soderberg, there is most likely enough room for the entire PSB at this site. This land is currently up for sale and has no building. Starting with such a property would eliminate demo costs, restrictions of a historical area, and avoid PFAS mitigation costs. A wetlands delineation study would be required to determine the limits of available land to use. Ms. Patch spoke of the rules regarding owners being able to submit available parcels for consideration before one is chosen. Mr. Zimmatore asked if the land costs could be rolled into the building costs, which seems likely according to several members. Mr. Soderberg agreed to attend the next Selectboard meeting to discuss an alternative parcel plan. Mr. Moncreaff agreed to report the Selectboard discussion regarding this information to the PSB committee. Other uses for the old Center building were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Documents:

- 1) Option B floor plan from C&B
- 2) Image of proposed alternative site
- 3) C&B C-B Concept Comparison
- 4) Agenda

