

Wallingford Police Station Steering Committee Minutes

Regular Meeting

Thursday, December 9, 2021 @ 10AM
Town Hall, 45 South Main Street
Room 315

PRESENT: Alison Kapushinski, Town Engineer, Steering Committee Chair, Vincent Cervoni, Town Council Chairman, Jon Walworth, John Ventura, Police Chief, Anthony DeMaio, Deputy Chief of Police, Richard Heidgerd, Retired Fire Chief, Rob Baltramaitis, Director of Public Works, William Wright, Retired Police Chief, Beth Dighello, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Agenda Items

1. Approve/accept minutes from the November 10, 2021 Regular Meeting

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes from the November 10, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Made by: Mr. Wright

Seconded by: Mr. Heidgerd

Votes: 6 Ayes

2. Public Comment

Bill Comerford asked why the meetings are scheduled at a time when most people are unable to attend. Ms. Kapushinski responded that this time works best for the committee members. Mr. Comerford also asked why the meetings are not televised. Ms. Kapushinski responded that up to this point, it has not been requested. Mr. Comerford expressed his concern that Jacunski Humes was awarded the contract because they were not the lowest bidder. Mr. Walworth responded that Jacunski Humes has a deeper knowledge and this is reflected in the price. Mr. Comerford asked why the weighting of the bid was changed to 75/25. Ms. Kapushinski responded that the town's Purchasing Department allows for bids requiring technical expertise to stray from the 50/50 weighting. The committee agreed to make the weighting 75/25. The Town Council was notified and did not take action against it within 30 days, so it was approved.

Mr. Comerford asked if this weighting allowed for bias. Ms. Kapushinski replied that the weighting was decided before the committee had any knowledge of who was bidding. She stated that the design of a

police station is very technical, and that is why it was weighted that way. Jacunski Humes was awarded the bid not based solely on price, but also technical knowledge and experience.

Mr. Walworth stated that bidders were required to have experience with firing ranges. The awarded bidder had that experience, while the other did not. This is just one example of how the technical scoring went.

Ms. Kapushinski stated that the committee followed the town ordinances to a tee.

3. Update on hiring Jacunski Humes Architects, LLC

Ms. Kapushinski stated that the Purchasing Department is reviewing the contract. There were some exhibits that needed to be rearranged. Changes were made based on comments from the Purchasing Department, and the contract was sent to the Law Department for review. That should take approximately three weeks. The concept phase should be ready for the January meeting.

4. Update on bid for hiring a Construction Manager

Ms. Kapushinski stated that at the last meeting the bid was approved at the 50/50 weighting. The bid has gone to the Law Department for final review. The Purchasing Department stated that they typically don't recommend the Cost Plus contract. Ms. Kapushinski stated that she reached out to Attorney Donofrio and Attorney Einhorn for comment. Attorney Donofrio was adamant that it is the best way to move forward. Before the bid goes out, there will likely be a meeting to determine which way it will be structured.

Mr. Walworth commented that if the Construction Manager advertisement is delayed, it may diminish their pre-construction services. He stated that it is important that the meeting takes place soon. Ms. Kapushinski stated that she will schedule the meeting as soon as possible.

5. Other Business

Ms. Kapushinski asked Chief Ventura for any updates. Chief Ventura stated that the manufacturers of police vehicles are now pushing electric vehicles. He stated that we need to plan for that and think about charging stations. Mr. Walworth asked if the location is an aqua protection zone. Mr. Baltramaitis responded that it is not. Mr. Walworth stated that a charging station should be easy, but onsite fueling may lead to additional costs. Mr. Wright stated that the police department uses approximately 45,000 – 50,000 gallons of fuel each year. Mr. Baltramaitis stated that it is possible to have the police vehicles fuel up at the Public Works location. The cost of onsite fueling versus the inconvenience of going to the Public Works Department should be assessed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Made by: Mr. Heidgerd

Seconded by: Councilman Cervoni

Votes: 6 Ayes

The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Dighello

Recording Secretary