

Police Facility Committee

Meeting #2

9/17/2015

Attendees:

Robert MacArthur

Mark Hopkins

Bernard Hamill

Tom Humphrey

Lou Alvarez

Tim Carpenter – Police Chief

David Lage – Selectmen Liaison

Next Meeting: 10/1/2015 5:30 p.m.

1. Reviewed discussions from initial meeting to bring committee members Alvarez and Humphrey, who were not present at the initial meeting, up to date on changes to the original charges described to committee members, and to provide background on discussions held during the previous meeting.
2. Discussion was held about the need for a volunteer to fill the position of Secretary since meeting minutes are required to be maintained. Lou Alvarez volunteered and was assigned the position.
3. Bob discussed the possible need to consider the future growth of the town population since that might affect police department manpower and space requirements. Chief Carpenter pointed out that FBI guidelines recommend a police force of 1 on-the-street-officer for each 500 people, but is currently running with 6 full-time officers on the force, which includes his position which is primarily administrative. Bob noted that latest statistics available were for 2010 and listed the population of New Ipswich as 5,099. He also noted that he did not think it had changed much in the previous 10 years and did not expect any further growth in the foreseeable future.

Lou stated that he would look into it further.

4. Discussions were held pertaining specific needs for a police department facility. Chief Carpenter informed the committee that, beyond the recommendations outlined in the "IACP Police Facility Planning Guidelines" that was distributed to members at the previous meeting, a recent change in New Hampshire law requires that police departments in the state must be equipped to handle adult and juvenile suspects in separate facilities that are "sound and sight isolated". These are further considerations that must be taken into account into the design for a police department facility.

Chief Carpenter recommended that the facility be located on a state road due to the fact that they are better maintained and are usually cleared first during emergency situations.

5. Various properties, both Town owned and commercially available were discussed, including the property located behind and adjacent to the current Town Hall, as well as the current location of the police Department. It was mentioned that the committee was also charged with considering the future needs of the Fire Department and Emergency Services in the site evaluation for the new Police facilities. This expanded the discussion into the specific considerations for a building to house Fire Department equipment and staff as well as the physical and administrative needs for the Emergency Services staff.

Meeting ended at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lou Alvarez