

Building and Facilities Committee

Minutes of 7-29-20; Whipple Hall

Members Present: Bowers, Beasley, Hogle, Cross, Cannon, Bianchi, Sherman, Cardillo,

Also present: Chief Cobb; Kim Hallquist, Administrator; Dennis Mires, Architect; Selectman Janet Kidder; P.D. Admin. Asst. Donna Larrow

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

1. *Approval of Minutes*

The minutes of the previous meeting of March 12, 2020 were reviewed by the Committee and were then approved unanimously.

2. *Reports* None

3. *Presentation by Subcommittee*

The Chair thanked the Subcommittee for its thorough and thoughtful work over the last several months. Phil Sherman, Chair of the Subcommittee, spoke on behalf of the Subcommittee, and noted that the Report under consideration is a DRAFT Report and that the Subcommittee had met fifteen times. He then introduced Dennis Mires, who presented the Report to the Subcommittee and discussed their work over the last several months. Other members of the subcommittee also spoke about the work that had been done.

The Chair then called on Chief Cobb, who offered her thoughts on the work of the Subcommittee, and suggested that the information she had received from Beltronics re the communications tower and systems be included. She agreed that the plans being discussed, as presented by the Subcommittee, addressed the original concerns expressed by Chief Andersen prior to his retirement from the Police Department. (See Mires Report at Appendix E.) Those concerns which remain and could not be remedied by the present proposal are listed in the Report, and she has nothing further to add to that list at this time.

The Chair then called on Kim Hallquist, Administrator, who stated that she believed the Report should contain information related to Mires Architects' experience, knowledge and background as it pertains to police department design, and standards or requirements related to that. The Chair inquired whether she had specific references for any standards or requirements that should be addressed, and she stated that she did not. The Chair asked her to let the Committee know if she became aware of any

such standards or requirements which should be considered, so they can take them into account in their deliberations.

Each member of the Committee was then called upon to ask questions and make statements. Peter Bianchi suggested that the Committee take up discussion of the Report at its next meeting, in order to give members additional time to read through and digest the data in the Report. There was consensus among the Committee that this would be the preferred course.

Phil Sherman wrapped up the Subcommittee's presentation, noting that the Subcommittee's task was to fill in the information not included in the Harriman Report, related to a redesign of the existing space, to include the Police Department space and the Recreation Department space, and the full use of the basement of Whipple Hall. This will give the Committee the missing piece necessary to pursue a more complete discussion of the alternatives: (1) reconstruction of the existing Buker building space, in line with the proposal now presented in the Mires Report; (2) an addition to the Buker building to accommodate additional space use, in conjunction with reconstruction of the existing space; or (3) construction of a new police station on a new site. He noted that there was still information to gather and discuss, such as more complete data on the costs of the Harriman proposal for a new police station, in order to have an organized cost comparison.

The Chair again thanked the Subcommittee, Chief Cobb, Kim Hallquist, and Dennis Mires for the work which has been done. The Subcommittee will consider the thoughts and issues which had been raised, and will report back to the Committee at its next meeting, on August 4, 2020.

4. *Other items to come before the Committee* None.

5. *Action Items.* None

The next meeting is at Whipple Hall, on Tuesday, August 4, at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Bowers, Chair