



COUNTY OF YORK

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MINUTES OF SIXTEENTH MEETING OF STRATEGIC PLANNING AND READINESS CENTER COMMITTEE July 21, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m. at the York County Government Building

Present: Commissioner Dutremble, County Manager Greg Zinser, Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont, Goodwin Mills Fire Chief Matt Duross, Cait Grant, YCCC, Corporal Anthony Ciampi, Biddeford P.D., Rachel Stansfield YC Development Director, Craig Anderson Sanford P.D., Jack Clements, H.R. Director/ Deputy Manager Linda Corliss, Wells Police Captain Kevin Chabot.

1. Administrative
 - a. Introductions
 - i. Introduce Development Director Rachel Stansfield
 - b. Attendance roster
 - c. Approve minutes from 6/9/23 meeting
Motion by Commissioner Ring to approve the minutes. Corporal Anthony Ciampi seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
2. Architect/Engineers/Construction Manager
 - a. Reports & Status- County Manager Zinser gave updates and explained that we are in the design / development phase now.
 - b. Cost estimates, timeline, if available
Construction management firm and price phasing process is next, and County Manager Zinser expects the value engineering information back by the 3rd week of August.
 - c. Permit process- County Manager Zinser reported that there have been a couple of roadblocks. One being the town of Alfred is going slow and it is in the hands of our attorneys. Vacations are also an issue. The County Manager continued that another issue is that the traffic movement permit came back with a list of questions. We responded this morning with finalizing our answers and it will go back to the State. We were informed that there is a rule within the regulations something to the effect of there can be no public building on a road that meets or exceeds 45 mph and our speed limit is 50 mph so this needs to be reviewed. We now have to have discussions. Our main contention is that we are not asking for a new entrance.

EHP (County Manager Zinser/E.M.A. Director Cleaves)- County Manager Zinser informed all that there have been questions back and forth. FEMA requirement due to Federal funding calls for a

higher level as the project is 5 acres or more. We did receive some feedback from the public and will go back to FEMA and then incorporate it into their SCOPING document with the end result being an environmental assessment report.

County Manager Zinser stated that we received a verbal report from Inland Fisheries and Wildlife that no endangered species will be affected.

DEP (?) County Manager Zinser informed all that the application is being sent out on Monday.

TMP(?)

Others (?)

- d. Entry Plaza –review design- County Manager Zinser stated that the architects aren't here so we will have to address this subject at future meeting.

3. CDS Request Status

Nothing new since last meeting. (Hooper)

County Manager Zinser stated that \$1.8 million was put into the final version (of the bill) for equipment. That is typically a pretty good bet that we will receive some of that funding.

4. Establish Subcommittees

- a. Research EMS simulators- in progress (Hooper/Wellman)

- b. Research V/R simulators- in progress -Assistant Fire Chief Rick Smith stated on the fire side, they received a nice letter from Susan Collins' office saying what the County Manager had said. Corporal Anthony Ciampi informed all that they had reached out to four vendors. At some point, they can all do some type of demo for us. Cait Grant offered the college (YCCC) for space for the demonstrations.

- c. Training Tower design (Pending RFP award)- County Manager Zinser told all that a subcommittee was formed and are reviewing the RFPs. He added that this process went through the County's purchasing agent and that WHP and Draeger submitted bids. Corporal Ciampi stated that they met a few weeks ago and they will vote and a recommendation will be presented to the Commissioners.

Cait Grant of YCCC asked what the timeline was for the facility to be operational? County Manager Zinser stated he estimates the groundbreaking to occur in January of 2024 with completion by mid-2025.

Cait Grant stated that technology will change.

Corporal Anthony Ciampi agreed and said that by mid-2024 they will push out newer technology.

County Manager Zinser stated that there is a timeframe on the grants (CDS money) and when we can use it. Typically, there is a three-year period in which to use those funds, he stated.

5. Training Tower Vendors

- a. Present recommendation for vendor-Chief Matt Duross motioned to grant the RFP to Draeger, Inc. for the training tower. Assistant Fire Chief Rick Smith seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

6. Sustainable Funding

- a. Fire and Police Chiefs' associations being contacted for input-

County Manager Zinser stated that Fire Chiefs have had ongoing conversations regarding operational costs and generally felt that operational costs should be borne by the County but that the training costs should be paid for by the agencies and any revenue brought in would help that. That's why working with the vendors for sponsorships would help subsidize the costs of training, stated the County Manager.

He continued that he hasn't had any conversation with Chief Putnam, President of the York County Chief's Association. Saco Police Chief Clements responded that they have not had a meeting and won't meet again until September. He added that he will ask Chief Putnam if we could have a meeting in August.

Chief Clements stated that they have a training counsel and funding mechanisms. Something within that structure is probably the easiest path to continue.

Sanford Police Chief Anderson asked what the estimated cost for training is. County Manager Zinser responded that they ran the numbers, in-depth and came up with roughly \$450,000 a year for operational costs. He added that the training components came to about \$350,000 a year. Wells Police Captain Chabot added that they don't pay their instructors, they ask for volunteers. County Manager Zinser replied but Fire (departments) does pay its instructors. County Manager Zinser added that departments could bring their own supplies and have training at the facility as it will be a 24/7 facility.

Assistant Fire Chief Rick Smith commented that they talked about lots of different ways to finance this and that their goal is to bring the quality of training up.

Police Captain Chabot stated that the model they have right now works. There is training all over the county so the agency that sponsors usually picks up the cost. There is already a mechanism in place. The goal is to have pre-planned, scheduled training for all.

7. Recent Field Trips

- a. Chief Duross and Chief Hooper visited Brookline (MA) FD on June 23rd and toured their WHP burn tower. Chief Duross commented that the WHP model is not going to give us what we need.

County Manager Zinser informed all that a public meeting was held a few weeks ago concerning our DEP permit. People in attendance were generally speaking in favor of the projects. We also had a follow up conversation with some of the abutters. There appears to be a growing concern about the EVOC track. Some of the residents are concerned about the noise. We have asked the engineer for the proximity of the track to lot lines and homes. Upon taking a brief look, stated County Manager Zinser, it is pretty close so he does think we might need to take a second look at that. He added that he told the abutters we will look into that in an effort to be good neighbors.

County Manager Zinser continued that it won't be a clear cut but because of the wetlands the road can only be constructed on the dry ground. The track does meet the setback requirements for the ordinance but we are concerned about the noise. It will be a low-speed track but there is still some concerns about the enjoyment of their property.

County Manager Zinser added that the conversation could be about usage and time.

Corporal Ciampi commented that the track would be used mostly during the daytime when people are at work.

Chief Clements added that the EVOC track is really more about entrance and exiting of one's vehicle. It is really not about a lot of speed and more about understanding the car. He added that the goal for new firefighters would be to get the feel for driving a fire truck.

Chief Clements stated that usually certification is not often (3 to 4 years).

8. Next meeting date

August ??, 2023 0900 at EMA?- No meeting date was decided.

Chief Clements motioned to adjourn. Corporal Ciampi seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

DRAFT