# FAIR HAVEN BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING - APRIL 27, 2022 HELD VIA ZOOM PLATFORM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Halpern at 7:05 p.m. The Flag Salute was followed by a Moment of Silent Reflection. The following Sunshine Law Statement was read:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, PUBLIC MEETINGS MAY BE HELD IN PERSON OR BY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT TO INCLUDE STREAMING SERVICES AND OTHER ONLINE MEETING PLATFORMS (NJSA 10:4-8(b)).

THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD THROUGH THE ZOOM MEETING PLATFORM BEING BROADCAST FROM BOROUGH HALL, 748 RIVER ROAD, FAIR HAVEN, NJ. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR THIS SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 27, 2022 IS AVAILABLE BY CALL IN PHONE NUMBER OR THROUGH WEB CONFERENCE (ZOOM). MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ON MUTE UNTIL IT IS TIME FOR QUESTIONS/COMMENTS, WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED. AT THAT TIME, THE PUBLIC HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION/COMMENT BY PHONE OR THROUGH ZOOM BY THE "RAISE HAND" BUTTON AND WILL BE CALLED ON AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

NOTICE OF THIS MEETING IS BASED ON THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2022-105 THE APRIL 11, 2022 REGULAR MEETING. NOTICE OF THIS SPECIAL MEETING WAS SENT TO THE ASBURY PARK PRESS, THE TWO RIVER TIMES AND THE STAR LEDGER ON APRIL 12, 2022. NOTICE WAS ALSO POSTED ON THE BOROUGH WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE, CONSTANT CONTACT, THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, AND HAS REMAINED CONTINUOUSLY POSTED AS REQUIRED UNDER THE STATUTE.

WITH ADEQUATE NOTICE HAVING BEEN GIVEN, THE BOROUGH CLERK IS DIRECTED TO INCLUDE THIS STATEMENT IN THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

#### **ROLL CALL**

On Roll Call the following were present: Councilmembers Chrisner-Keefe, Cole, Koch, McCue, Neff and Rodriguez. Others present: Administrator Casagrande, Borough Engineer Gardella, Chief McGovern, Eli Goldstein, Borough Architect, Rick Adelsohn, Borough Architect's Office and Brian Meade, Owner's Representative.

Mayor Halpern said he is going to turn the meeting over to the Borough's Architect, Eli Goldstein and Rick Adelsohn for a presentation on the Borough Facilities. The Mayor asked Mr. Goldstein to present on the Police Department first with comment/questions by the governing body followed by public comment on the Police Department only. The presentation will then move to the DPW Facility followed by Council comment/questions and then public comment/questions on the DPW only.

### **PRESENTATION**

Borough Facilities Projects. Eli Goldstein shared his screen so everyone could see the presentation and follow along. He started with the Police Building Site Plan slide and Rick Adelsohn took over showing the police department layout with 27 parking spaces, a storage building that include restrooms and a sidewalk that runs from Fisk Street to the park. There is an accessible walkway to the front with stairs leading into the building, as well as, a sally port for prisoners. The communication tower will remain where it is. Mr. Adelsohn said there will be handicap parking. Fisk Street will be widened a few feet and straightened from the police department to the corner at Maple Avenue. Mr. Goldstein showed the proposed Police Building Floor Plans which will be three levels (partial basement for storage including archives storage, first and second floor). He reviewed the first and second floor layout and what each floor will house i.e. dispatch, offices, training room, server room, conference room, men's and women's restrooms and showers for the officers. The elevations of the building were shown as well as the materials that will be used such as residential roofing and siding and stone for the foundation. The meeting was turned back to Mayor Halpern who asked the governing body for their comments and/or questions.

Councilwoman Cole thanked Mr. Goldstein and Mr. Adelsohn. She asked if they knew the square footage of the current Community Center room; approximately 1,000-1,200 square feet. She noted that the site plan does not show the adjacencies and the recreational area behind the building which has basketball courts, tennis courts and a field area which is important and enjoyed by everyone. It is important to maintain the connection. She noted a fence between the sidewalk and the building. Mr. Adelsohn said there is a post and rail fence (3 ½ high with two rails) that separates the path to the park from the police function; it is similar to the fence that currently exists between the basketball court and the parking lot. He shared his screen to show the landscape plan. The trees on the site will need to be removed because of the alignment of the building and grade

Changes; the trees will be replaced. Sidewalk is the driving force as well; there is an encroachment of the neighbor's property on to the police property so that will be corrected. Councilwoman Cole asked to see Police Storage Building; Mr. Goldstein shared his screen to show the plan and reviewed it. There will be a garage door facing north with cages so the police can access the equipment that will be stored there and at the south end there will be a covered outdoor patio facing the ballfield with restrooms to serve the public. He reviewed the elevations of the building. Councilwoman Cole said there is an area under the opening which is a great space (looks to be a little over 700 square feet) and asked if there could be collapsible barn doors to make it more useable during different seasons. It is important to think of flexible use of space and to use our taxpayer dollars the best we can and there should be lighting. She was advised that there will be lighting from the roof structure which will light the entire patio as well as a WiFi hotspot and bathrooms available year-round. Mr. Adelsohn said there are no proposed changes to the tennis courts. The handball court encroaches on the patio, not the tennis courts. Councilwoman Cole requested an 8' trellis on three sides of the patio to allow for a seating area for after game parties and other programs. She asked if there is a water filling station; yes, between the restrooms under the overhang. There will also be a hose bib. She felt that skylights in the roof of the covered area would be a nice addition for lighting; the covered area is the entire back section of the storage area and open on the sides so there will be plenty of light. She provided additional comments and suggestions regarding the outside area and venting system. She felt the storage area should have some sort of glass on the wall and not be a solid garage door to make it more inviting since this is a community policing department with recreation facilities right behind it (there should not be separation between the youth and our police). The kids do not need much and are happy to just hang out there as a safe place. Councilwoman Cole said two chimneys are shown and asked why; to accommodate the air handling equipment in the attic that needs fresh area and vertical vents. She felt it was an institutional feel in a residential neighborhood. Mr. Goldstein explained the need for corner board with the type of siding (fiber cement) that will be used. Colors have not been decided yet because it is a public bid, and we are unsure of the manufacturers that will be included in the package, so colors are dependent on that.

Councilman Rodriguez touched on Councilwoman Cole's comments and questions. One of the goals is to keep the police department open until the new building is completed. He asked Mr. Goldstein to explain the impact on the trees, sidewalks, landscaping and the fortification of the foundation of the current police department while excavating and building the new police department. Mr. Adelsohn explained that the site is being split at the curb line of the existing parking lot to maintain the existing police department is open. Grades and geometry were set as to not undermine the foundation because the basement in the new building is deeper than the existing basement. Part of the reason for tree removal is because the area is needed for staging and equipment during construction. The site is tight, and this was the best approach for the design. Mr. Goldstein showed where the neighboring residential property is as well as the church property. The church has given permission to use their lot for police vehicles during construction; Chief McGovern confirmed that the Reverend said it would not be a problem. Councilman Rodriguez assured Councilwoman Cole that the Facilities Committee did take a lot of the notions into consideration and because of the engineering and logistics of maintaining the current structure during construction, we have to sacrifice some areas. Luckily the trees are not historical; the plan is to plant a lot more trees than are being taken down understanding that it takes time for the trees to grow.

Councilman McCue thanked Councilman Rodriguez for mentioning that the existing structure is staying in place while construction occurs. There are a few water spigots on the storage building. He appreciated that two years ago we started this and thought we were looking forward with the EV charging stations for four vehicles (1 tower charges 2 vehicles). The restrooms will be heated, no air conditioning. The WiFi hotspot will be in the open area and he asked if there would be a hard-wired AV connections for recreation; no, nothing planned.

Councilwoman Koch asked for the square footage of the current police station vs. the proposed; that information was not at hand. She asked if the new building requires two staircases and an elevator; yes, there needs to be two means of egress and an elevator to conform with ADA for the second floor and only one staircase required from the basement (lower occupancy). She asked what type of materials will be used for the exterior. Mr. Goldstein said clapboard siding, asphalt shingle roofing, aluminum clad wood windows, stone base at the bottom of the wall, and exposed aluminum gutters and leaders. The same materials will be used for the storage building and DPW. There will be a passageway from Fisk Street to the fields; the Planning Board requested that there be sidewalk on the western side of the storage building and southwest along the west side of the parking lot to the main path. Mr. Adelsohn shared his screen to show the storage building and connectivity. It was understood that the area is heavily used by children, but there is not great connectivity due to grade and the building layout. To do connectivity, the park would have to be revamped which was not part of this plan. Councilwoman Koch asked Mr. Goldstein where areas could be scaled down to reduce costs such as materials that are economical; they are. She was advised that police departments are costly because of codes and standards that need to be abided by; it would be up to the Facilities Committee on what would be scaled back. She discussed some of the conference

areas/offices. He said that the basement area could be reduced which has archives as part of it; reducing the basement area would give some relief as far as excavation fees. The costs given include demolition, remediation of the building, construction costs, furniture, etc.

Administrator Casagrande answered Councilman McCue's question regarding cost of air conditioning for the storage building bathrooms; the Mechanical Engineer quoted \$20,000.

Councilman Rodriguez thanked Eli Goldstein and his team. He has been ingrained in the process for the last five years and this plan for the past 1 ½ years so he did not have many questions. He did ask Mr. Goldstein how the proposed police department "stacks up" from a financial standpoint of other municipal projects (understanding that these are institutional buildings and cost money). Mr. Goldstein said that construction costs changed with inflation (more than 1% per month); there has been a \$2 million increase in costs for this building in the last year. The cost is \$500 per square foot for the police department which is consistent with all police departments in NJ.

Councilwoman Neff was also concerned on the cost of construction for both buildings (police department and storage). She asked how much storage is needed and what the percentage of the total cost is to the police department. She asked if it could be added to the main building and use the storage building for the recreation facility that will be lost with the new police department. Mr. Goldstein said they did look to include it in the building, but due to the geometry of the site, it was awkward to do. He shared his screen which showed costs as of March 2022 from the Engineering News Record so the governing body could see the cost breakdown for the buildings. The storage building will cost approximately \$400,000 which includes the restrooms for the ballfields. The cost is not much different if it were built as part of the building. Councilman Rodriguez explained the reasoning and considerations for the storage garage which will house Emergency Management equipment (since it would no longer be a part of the DPW building). Councilwoman Neff asked if there is a way to shrink spaces in the main police building as well as the size of the DPW. She noted that the Recreation Center would be lost, and we need to preserve our recreation programs.

Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe thanked the Mayor, Facilities Committee and professionals for the presentation. She asked if the grading of the site changed quite a bit from the last time this was presented. Mr. Goldstein said the grading of the police department is not flat and asked Mr. Adelsohn to explain the grade. The grade was revised for the southside of the parking lot and is essentially at the same grade as the basketball courts; they raised the site to make better use of the existing topography (the grades mesh better than they had). There is five feet between the street and basketball courts. She asked if lighting at the front of the building will be the same as what is currently there. Mr. Goldstein would have to get back to her. She asked if the chimney stacks could be moved so the building could fit in better with the community or do they have to stay where they are. Mr. Goldstein said that it is hard to do and more costly because they were designed to get air through the building; he brought up a 3D rendering of the building to help the governing body better understand what it will look like. Some of the windows will be able to be opened, but not all of them for energy conservation. There will be a full glass front door that leads to a vestibule. Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe asked about all of the stone veneer being used on the lower portion of the building and if some of the stone could be replaced with siding or a substitute material. Mr. Goldstein said that they can use a decorative textured concrete block instead of stone.

Mayor Halpern opened the meeting to the public for comments and/or questions only on the police building and police storage building at 8:23 p.m. Marti Egger, Hance Road, asked if the basement would be completely underground; yes, there are no windows in the basement. She asked what the total height of the building would be with the grading; 31' 8" above the first level in the front (the highest being 35'). She asked if the building will be a lot taller than the buildings around it or similar; it will be the same as two-story residences. The first and second floor will have 8' high ceilings and the basement would be slightly less due to the water table. Mrs. Egger said since the trees cannot speak for themselves and it is the eve of Arbor Day (April 29<sup>th</sup>) and also the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Arbor Day and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Arbor Day Foundation, she is very concerned about our status as a Tree City and there is always concern about clear cutting trees in the Borough. She would mourn the loss of mature trees being taken down for staging to be easier.

Stephanie Adams, Oxford Avenue and Green Team member, asked questions about the restroom duct work and costs. She asked if the Facilities Committee and Architect considered mini splits instead of duct work. They are pretty efficient and a lot more cost effective, however, the compressors have to be housed someplace. Mr. Goldstein said that when the engineers were asked what the costs would be, they did not necessarily design the system, but based on their own experience they felt the incremental cost to install heat would be \$20,000. They have used mini splits on many projects so that was probably one of the options they considered. Councilwoman Cole agreed with the mini split idea to keep the restrooms cool, and they are inexpensive. She used them for her home (pavilion and bathrooms) and felt it was worth examining. Councilman Rodriguez said when the Facilities Committee spoke about air conditioning those locations, they also considered

that people are only spending a few minutes in the bathrooms and then it may go unused for a few hours. It was thought the money savings was more important than trying to cool the storage facility during hot weather. It can be investigated, but there will be a slight cost increase.

There being no further comments or questions, the meeting was closed to the public at 8:29 p.m.

### PRESENTATION ON THE DPW FACILITY

Eli Goldstein, Borough Architect, gave an overview of the DPW building and yard site plan. Rick Adelsohn reviewed the bio-retention basin at the front of the property and behind that is a 30-car parking lot with access from Allen Street and Maple Avenue. There are three spaces marked for recycling as well as two handicap spaces and an EV charger for two spaces. There will be an area for outdoor recycling with three containers. There is a fuel island to fuel the DPW equipment and vehicles, as well as, police and fire vehicles. To the south of the property is a salt storage building and storage space for plows and parking for DPW equipment. There will be an 8' privacy fence securing the DPW site, driveways off of Allen (same locations as the current driveways). There will be an underground detention system and water quality filters in the parking lot. There will be offsite improvements (sidewalks and curb along Maple Avenue as well as limited improvements with narrow widening of the curb line and realigning on Third Street). The police impound yard will be in the back left corner of the yard. The current DPW will remain for operation purposes while the new building is constructed.

Mr. Goldstein shared his screen and reviewed the building layout (several staff offices, a multi-purpose room, conference room, vehicle garage and lift, a mezzanine for storage, as well as storage and equipment rooms), elevations and views for the residents of Third Street, Maple Avenue and Allen Street. The building materials will be the same as is used for the police department.

Mayor Halpern opened the meeting to the governing body for comments or questions pertaining to the DPW facility. Councilwoman Cole asked who created the program for the building at the DPW site; Engineer Gardella. She felt that it was a significant structure for DPW, but the layout is great. There are five offices, four bathrooms, garages, etc. which is fancy for a DPW. She shared the concerns of Councilwomen Neff and Koch that these are expensive endeavors. There have been quite a bit of expenses incurred just to get to this stage. She felt the DPW building was elaborate and should cost significantly less than the police department and did not think the building is consistent with what the taxpayers would want to put their money toward. Mr. Goldstein said while the Police and DPW buildings appear the same and the costs are similar, the Police Department represents much more than the fraction of its \$6 million compared to what the public works represents of its \$6 million. Most of the cost of the DPW building is in the site work where most of the cost of the police building is in the building itself. At the DPW site there is the replacement of the salt shed, fuel island and moving the recycling center. Councilwoman Neff felt there needs to be a better breakdown of the costs. The DPW is one floor, and the police department is three floors. Councilwoman Cole said there is a lot of roof because of the tall garage doors, and she asked if solar could be considered for the building. Mr. Goldstein said the roof will hold the solar panel load. It was asked if solar was discussed; yes, the buildings are being built to add solar panels in the future. Councilman Rodriguez said that solar panels were discussed in detail when the project concepts went before the Planning Board. There is a concern with birds, reflection of the sun off the panels, and heat coming off of the panels as well. There was discussion about adding panels at a later date and the possibility that in the future there may be panels that do not throw off a glare, produce as much heat and do not impact the ecology around it. Councilwoman Cole was concerned about the landscaping and buffer between the neighborhood and the site; she saw chain link fencing in some places and 8' board on board fencing in other places. She asked where the buffer will be especially the west side of the site. There will be plantings and fencing on the west side; Rick Adelsohn shared the landscape plan which shows the site heavily landscaped on both the east and west sides. There is board on board fencing around the recycling area, open wrought iron style gates across the driveways and 8' board on board around the building, across the back and along Maple Avenue. There will be chain link fence around the police impound yard. Councilwoman Cole asked for a copy of the landscape plan for both the police site and DPW site; it will be sent to her. Mr. Adelsohn said there is a plan to preserve wooded areas where they can infill underneath it at the southern side of Maple Avenue (the landscape architect visited the area and noted vegetation that could be saved). There will be new vegetation planted along Third Street to create a buffer for the residents on Allen Street. We are trying to soften the view of the DPW site to the community; there is an awareness that there is a DPW yard in the middle of a residential neighborhood. The gates that will be installed are power operated and will slide. It was asked if a solid material wood fence could be installed to further insulate the area. Mr. Adelsohn advised that too much wood makes it difficult to move and function; an open gate helps with opening and visibility so the vehicles can safely exit out. Councilwoman Cole asked that the residents be spoken to so we know what they deal with (noise, traffic, view) and how we can remedy their concerns.

Councilman McCue advised there was considerable discussion on solar. In his opinion, the south facing roofline calls for solar which would be a great cost savings. There was discussion regarding solar being an alternate bid in the bid specifications. There have been changes that affect cost; we need to build this building correctly for the future. There was consideration for the plantings such as evergreens and deciduous trees for shade and cooling effects. There are plenty of mature, existing trees and the goal is to try to preserve as many trees as we can, however some may need to be removed. He noted neighbor concerns regarding the width of Allen Street and asked if the property line can be moved to allow room for the DPW trash cans to be placed out to allow for cars to pass the area safely. Mr. Adelsohn said Allen Street is remaining the same alignment that is currently there. The fencing and gates will help with the idling of snowplows and the trucks. Mr. Goldstein said the mechanical lift elevator that was part of the plan has been removed from the proposed building; there would be a regular stairwell. Councilman McCue said the offices that are planned would be for Engineer Gardella, Assistant Engineer Poruchynsky, Planning and Zoning Board Secretary, Zoning Officer and there will be a conference room which will be WiFi connected and accessible to the public. It would be great for the staff to be able to eat lunch, review plans and hold the DPW Committee meetings there.

Councilwoman Koch agreed with Councilwoman Cole's comments. The drawings are beautiful, but it seems over the top for what will be provided (5 offices, work room, workshop room, training and break area, etc.). She asked what the difference is between a work room and a workshop. Engineer Gardella said there are three designated larger spaces; on the east side would be a workshop room which is accessible from the garage area for building maintenance (work bench, tools and materials to assemble things with room for the Streets Department to assemble and cut signs for our streets and roads). The workshop would be multi-purpose with tools and work benches, so the employees are not out in the elements when building something. The work room would have computer workstations for the employees to be able to check their e-mails, do work that requires use of a computer. The training/break room is exactly that; a break room/lunchroom and an area for required training and classes which can also flex to meet with the public or as shelter from a storm, use of WiFi or whatever may be needed. The offices are for Land Use, Planning, Engineering, and Public Works (Mechanics office and Buildings and Grounds Foreman, which is in the current building) so it is all under one roof as opposed to working out of two locations and sharing desks. The offices will provide space for the employees and will allow meetings with the public every day. There are regular visits from residents to discuss work orders, plans for projects, etc. The other space is the mechanical room, boiler room and storage (reducing from 6 bays to 5 bays). While the building plan seems large, it is actually consolidated from what DPW currently has. Most of the cost is for the site work including a safe recycling center area.

Councilwoman Koch asked what the mezzanine function would be. Engineer Gardella said the mezzanine would be storage of DPW supplies and equipment. There will no longer be the five large storage containers that currently sit closer to Third Street. The mezzanine is cost effective and will hold various tools and equipment, work benches and will be a more suitable and accessible area. It will also hold recreation supplies such as soccer nets, seasonal storage, mechanic's tools/supplies and parts (a low impact use where supplies can be carried up a stair); nothing heavy will be stored in the mezzanine area. Councilwoman Koch asked about the charging stations in the DPW parking area (northern end of the property) and if there will initially just be conduits for possible future charging stations; yes, there would be make ready spaces at DPW and the PD. There would be two charging stations on the east side of the parking lot. She asked if residents could use them at any time. Once use is established, there will be costs involved with providing EV stations. She asked if there would be a company that would oversee and maintain the stations; that has not been looked into, at this time. Fair Haven is less than two-square miles and she felt that residents would be driving in a fully charged vehicle; she did not feel this was a necessary amenity. Mr. Adelsohn advised that in July 2021, the State passed a law for EV stations to be installed so we need to comply with the law. Councilman McCue advised Councilwoman Koch that the Borough could look into a rolling grant to "Pay to Plug In"; we cannot apply or be approved now because it takes a year to complete. The Green Team is following and will assist with the grant process which will pay for this endeavor. Councilwoman Koch felt the building is beautiful, but asked that there be a scale back on the materials used.

Councilman Rodriguez said the Facilities Committee discussed solar panels, in depth. They can be removed, but the Committee thought it was forward-thinking. The EV is what the State wants and where the future is going especially with the price of gas. The committee went the most cost-effective way and want a solid building that will last 40-50 years. The design standard and the materials that we are putting into the buildings are not expensive compared to other building materials that are out there. There was a lot of thought and work put into this plan by both the Facilities and Finance Committees.

Councilwoman Neff said the building is gorgeous and asked to what in the beautiful design is making it expensive. She noted a lot of windows, especially at the top between the two roof lines

and a lot of stone at the bottom. She felt shrinking the building size and using cheaper materials will help with the costs. It was asked what the roof color will be. Mr. Goldstein said, like the PD, a roof color will not be chosen until after the bids are received as certain contractors have access to certain manufacturers. It will be a standard roof color due to the comments received on glare, heat and birds plus future solar panel installation. She suggested a darker roof color for future black solar panels; she has solar panels with a dark gray roof. Councilwoman Neff was glad there will be EV stations in the front of the building; she is familiar with EV as she is a Green Team member. The Green Team will be successful with a grant. We need to look toward the future.

Councilwoman Chrisner-Keefe advised that her comments and questions were already asked or stated.

Mayor Halpern open the meeting to the public for comments and questions on the DPW building at 9:25 p.m. Claudia Brady, Fair Haven Road, asked that the governing body think of the costs and inflation with these buildings. There is also an increase in the cost of land value and if some of the Borough owned land behind DPW could be sold, it may help offset costs.

Andy Ashwal, Woodland Drive S and Facilities Committee member said he is excited about the plans and improving the buildings for the public and the Police and DPW employees. These new buildings will last as long as our current buildings have, and the appropriate materials will be chosen and used

Stephanie Adams, Oxford Avenue and Green Team member, noted the early conversation held regarding solar and efficiency and asked if bids were received for the kilowatts needed and asked how many panels will be installed. Mr. Goldstein said the solar panels could not power the entire building when in full use. He explained the use process and certain times of the year which won't generate enough power for significant savings; in the summer, we may be able to generate more power. Ms. Adams verified that no bids have been received to date; correct, we are not at the bid stage process yet. When the time comes for bids, there will be a point for solar to be bid as an alternate. She noted that it seems solar panels are not going to be installed, initially but at some point in the future. Councilman Rodriguez advised we are trying to solidify the building design first to be sure the building will be able to handle solar. She asked how a decision can be made without this information. Mr. Goldstein said there are ways panels can be put up for free where companies essentially rent the roof space and share the cost savings with the Borough over seven years and then the Borough would own the panels. Ms. Adams suggested getting an estimate for a better understanding. She asked if consideration was ever given to move the DPW facility behind the Police Department to make it a complex and build a playground and Recreation Center where the current DPW is. Councilman Rodriguez advised the Borough did consider it and it was the initial plan around 2017/2018, however, we received negative feedback to the idea. We also considered Borough Hall being combined with the police department, looked at the Sunoco site on River Road and 623 River Road (both rejected by the public). We looked at many concepts and pulled back because the ideas were not well received.

Wilson Rodriguez, Allen Street, thanked everyone involved in the proposed designs. Both projects have been going on for years (three different concepts over time). The DPW concept shown this evening is consistent with the residential feel and that is appreciated. He asked if the driveway on the Allen Street side of the property was incorporated; the driveways have been widened slightly to make the turns easier. Mr. Rodriguez agreed with Councilwoman Cole about the gates and asked that there be some sort of privacy incorporated like there is now. As far as the salt shed, the neighbors do not want to see it, and he requested it be angled 45 degrees to face the center of the yard. Mr. Adelsohn advised it was angled and the Facilities Committee rotated it back for better function. The door would be on the north side (so it is not exposed to the public) with the same siding as the main building, so it does not look like a generic shed. Mr. Rodriguez asked if the driveway will be shifted; it will be in the same location just north a little bit. He asked that the trash cans be hidden in some way, or a dumpster put in place at the yard because sometimes there are close to 10 cans out at the street. It was asked if the southern side of the yard will encroach a little into the wooded area; yes, about 7-10 feet.

Robert Gasperini, Finance and Facilities Committee member appreciated the time and effort as it has been many hours and discussions to be sure the building(s) fit into the community and keeping the surrounding residents in mind. Mr. Goldstein shared his screen to show a 3D rendering so everyone had a better understanding of the facility. He advised it is the same as what was presented to the Planning Board. Mr. Gasperini asked what the height of the building would be; the same height as the existing building to match the neighborhood. There were many lengthy discussions regarding the type of materials and costs for them including what the savings would be for different materials. Overall, the committee was trying to keep in mind the cost benefit analysis if we are going to save 20% on the cost of the siding, what are we giving up in the long term as far as durability of the products. With the DPW building, there is a lot of traffic including heavy

Equipment with exposure to a lot of different elements. Materials are needed to withstand time vs. savings of \$50,000-\$100,000 for both buildings. While it seems we are spending a significant amount of money, this is a major investment. Mr. Gasperini said that it has been a pleasure serving on the Facilities Committee to this point.

Elizabeth McNeil, Third Street (between Church and Maple), thanked everyone for creating such a gorgeous building. It is a huge relief to see the building blends in with the neighborhood and the parking lot is a huge relief because there will be issues with the increased use of the playground. She asked if a power wall installation was discussed; no, it did not come up, but the committee and professionals can look into it. Councilman Rodriguez asked what the benefit would be to the community and DPW. Mrs. McNeill said someone who is in expert on this subject lives on McCarter Avenue; her husband is looking into it for their home, as well. It basically serves as a generator that creates its own electricity (similar to solar panels) and is connected to the power system in the Borough so you can sell back power if you collect more power. It should be impactful by providing power to the car charging stations. Councilwoman Neff said that a house that is 4,000 square feet or so would need three power walls which would help in a black out situation to keep the house charged. You can choose how to power and what to power in your home. Mr. Goldstein said both the police department and DPW will have a diesel-powered generator to maintain service.

With no further comments or questions from the public, the meeting was closed to the public at 9:57 p.m.

Mayor Halpern thanked everyone in attendance. The next step will be to review the finance and tax impact of the project with the Borough's Chief Financial Officer, Financial Advisor, Bond Counsel and Finance Committee. The figures will be shared with the full governing body prior to the Special Meeting to be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. He thanked Eli Goldstein and Rick Adelsohn for their time and presentation. The Facilities Committee was thanked for all of the time volunteered to put this together. He thanked the entire Council, Brian Meade, Engineer Gardella, Chief McGovern, Administrator Casagrande and Clerk Cinquegrana for their attendance this evening and the public for their comments and input.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn moved by Councilman Rodriguez, second by Councilwoman Koch with Ayes by all present.

Time of Adjournment: 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allyson M. Cinquegrana, RMC/CMR Borough Clerk