



# Town of Ashland

MASSACHUSETTS

## Public Safety Building Committee Minutes February 5, 2021 – 9:00 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81546487514?pwd=cUw5K3hqR3h2VnVvdHFTQ0ZJRUFWdz09>

### ***Call Meeting to Order***

Attending: Joe Magnani, Steve Mitchell, Vin Alfano, Keith Robie, Michael Herbert, Jenn Ball, Peter Chisholm  
Guests: Jon Lemieux, Bill Nangle (Vertex), Janet Slemenda, Paula Cartridge, and Amy Dunlap

### ***Order of Business***

#### **Public Safety Building Discussion**

Joe Magnani opened the meeting and turned it over to Jon Lemieux to discuss the status of the CTA reference checks. Jon reported that he had spoken to Tahanto which outlined a siding issue that went to arbitration. CTA was awarded \$2M in that case. There seemed to be issues between the designer and CTA. The Town was not pleased that way CTA handled the issue. Jon also spoke to Plainville and Hopkinton. Jenn Ball reported that she spoke with the Building Committee chair in Southborough. They just completed a public safety building working with both Vertex and CTA. The chairperson was very satisfied with the project and had a good working relationship with CTA. He was also confident that Vertex would be able to manage the project effectively and efficiently. Vin Alfano reported that he spoke to the Medford Police Chief and he provided a strong reference against the proposed CTA project manager – he ultimately was satisfied with CTA and their new building but did report having conflict with the PM. Jon reiterated similar accounts from other POCs in other communities. The committee discussed the pros and cons of this particular PM. Ultimately the committee agreed that it would be important to obtain a commitment from CTA that he would not be assigned to this project. The committee also agreed that it would be important to memorialize this into the contract. Peter Chisholm reported that he spoke to a colleague that had experience working with CTA and they were satisfied with their work as well.

At 10:00 AM members of CTA, Pat Tompkins, Paul Duross, and Jeff Hazelwood, joined the meeting. Members of the committee introduced themselves to the CTA representatives. The committee explained its concerns about staffing and discussed some of the issues that came up during the reference checks including process to manage sub contracts and the importance of staying on the project timeline. CTA explained its background. They have been in business for over 20 years and they focus on public construction projects. At any time, they have 6-10 construction projects occurring, each of these projects tend to be within the \$20m-\$40m range; their annual revenue is about \$100M. CTA also explained that they are working on a better job closeout project. They also agreed to assign a new project manager to the project. The committee asked Jon to review the proposed new staff. They committed to having open lines of communication so the committee and contractor can work out any issue as they arise. CTA representatives left the meeting.

After the conversation, Steve Mitchell moved to ask Jon and Jenn to work with Town Counsel to issue a construction contract to CTA. The contract documents will outline CTA's commitments so this will be memorialized. Peter Chisholm seconded the motion. This passed unanimously.

The committee reviewed the 1/12/21 draft minutes. Steve motioned to pass as presented. Joe seconded. This passed unanimously.

Steve Mitchell motioned to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Peter Chisholm. This passed unanimously.

### ***Adjournment***

#### ***Meeting Materials:***

This agenda is subject to change and includes those items reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all agenda items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.