

**Transition Task Force**  
**Public Safety Subcommittee**  
**Minutes**  
**June 8, 2012**

1. Dispatch RFI reply, iXP presentation.
  - a. iXP representatives outlined their thoughts about a new dispatch center for the new PD. Time to complete, potential cost savings and long range financial and operations are all part of their thought process.
  - b. Bernie Miller who could not attend today had sent a list of questions to them, all were answered. A summary of those would be:
    1. basement of Boro Hall as dispatch site would allow for future Princeton growth and potential to grow to a regional center also, assume 2,500sf to start, grow to 3,500 for regional. 4 positions for Princeton, grow to 8 positions (est) for regional. 4 positions, assume you need 11 people. Number of dispatchers for regional based on workload needs.
    2. Reuse of existing Twp facility, could be done. Some risk in working in a live dispatch center.
    3. Regional at Boro Hall since radio system and tower/antenna are there now. That is linked to Twp PD.
    4. Advantages of regional dispatch center for Princeton, interoperability with other agencies; capital costs, upgrades spread over a larger base.
    5. Security if not with PD. Can be solved with technology.
    6. Could dispatch center be somewhere else, not at Boro Hall, not at Twp Hall; yes.
    7. If at Boro Hall assume a lease arrangement.
    8. iXP dispatchers are not union. Current dispatch in GA in same building as municipal staff, no problems, everyone gets along fine.
  - c. iXp and regional aspect was discussed.
  - d. Dispatchers and current state pensions, what happens to those. At 10 years their state pension is vested. So all with 10 or more years would not lose that benefit. State pension cost to employee is now at 7 1/8% of salary. The local employee contribution rate for PERS is 6.5% until July 1, 2012 when it increases by 1/7% to 6.64%. In July 2013 the employee contribution rate increases again by 1/7%. The employer contribution rate for PERS in April 2013 is 12.24%. iXP offers a 401K plan.
  - e. For the sake of these minutes the points that were discussed mainly dealing with WPCS will be shown under WPCS; but the actual discussion bounced back and forth between iXP and WPCS reps since the overall dispatch discussion involves them both.
  - f. Dispatchers and pensions was a very important discussion. Clearly not hurting dispatchers regarding their pensions is a priority. But the discussion of where to build a dispatch center and how to plan for the future is not hinged on diaptchers becoming iXP staff, two separate discussions.
  - g. For next week provide info on estimated cost to build dispatch center at Boro Hall. Thought process here being this site may provide for more expansion even if it stays a local center and does not go regional. Better to investigate

this now and not duplicate equipment purchase costs twice within a few years of each other.

- h. iXP can also manage entire conversion process, will offer more detail on this next week. Including design services, etc.
  - i. WPCS stated they don't do design; but some amount of design would be provided free.
  - j. iXP could build a business case surrounding the dispatch center over the next 3-4 weeks.
  - k. If dispatch center were to move away from PD site, what activities that the dispatchers currently do would have to be done by others? Both PD's to create a list, we may be able to assign a cost range/impact to these at our next meeting.
  - l. On dispatching being an in-house or an outsourced function it was the sense of the committee that we would not recommend outsourcing dispatch. While the new town could look at this, for now we will look at ability to expand for Princeton needs in future and at the costs and benefits of locating dispatch and building now at a site (Borough Hall) that could allow for creating a regional dispatch center in Princeton in the future.
2. WPCS report update.
- a. Presentation on coverage area. Overall coverage of Princeton would be better from Fine Tower than from existing Boro Tower at Boro Hall. Also a statement that existing tower at Boro Hall needs a structural inspection/survey.
  - b. Suggestion that moving racks of radio system equipment from Boro Hall to Fine Tower (PU) due to improved coverage. Also the radio room at Fine Tower has proper HVAC and UPS, Boro Hall current site does not, so expense for upgrades to these two areas could be avoided. Both sites do have generator power. Request made to Paul Ominsky to see if moving this equipment to Fine Tower is an option.
  - c. Equipment discussion, where we build does not affect this need. We need:
    - 1. a new radio system (\$225K),
    - 2. we need additional dispatch equipment (\$100K),
    - 3. we need new mobile and portable radios (\$189K).
    - 4. If we expand current Twp dispatch center there would also be a cost of \$110K to expand the current 911 system.
    - 5. If we build a new dispatch center at Boro Hall instead of the \$110K 911 expansion cost, there would be ~\$200K new 911 system cost.
    - 6. Items 1, 2 & 3 are needed no matter where we build, so these should be ordered (state contract) ASAP. Moved by KW, second by JB to recommend to TTF that towns move ahead with this. Aye by all five voting members in room.

Other business. Merging the two evidence systems, at a cost of \$20,000 this was moved by BA and seconded by DW, aye by the four voting members in the room.

Public Comments, I neglected to take notes on them. However the public present took place in the discussions above as they happened.

## Adjournment

Present: Bob Altman, Dick Woodbridge, Jo Butler, Kevin Wilkes, Acting Chief Morgan, Captain Sutter, Lt. Papp, Lt. Toole, Paul Ominsky, Curt Barry, Bob Gregory, Mark Freda, iXP and WPCS.

Scott Sillars was also present as a member of the public. Gene McCarthy from DCA was present for a good part of the meeting.