

Crisis and Strategic Communications Plans Committee
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Room #1
September 6, 2018
Special Meeting Minutes

Members Present: S. Link; W. DiCristofaro; J. Rhoades; R. Turner; B. Reas; M. Piscioti; L. Salicrup; L. Bonadies

Also Present: Deb Denette

1. Selectman Link called the Crisis and Strategic Communications Plans Committee meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Introduction of Members

Ms. Link invited all members to introduce themselves. Bill DiCristofaro, Chairman of the Board of Finance; Jeff Rhoades, East Haddam Police Officer; Ron Turner, Director of Operations; Brian Reas, Superintendent of East Haddam Schools; Marc Piscotti, Board of Education member and parent; Lou Salicrup, East Haddam resident; Liza Bonadies, East Haddam resident.

3. Appointment of Secretary

Ms. Link called for a volunteer for the position of Secretary, there were no volunteers for the position. Ms. Link noted she will take minutes, Mr. Salicrup suggested we tape the meetings and do minutes from the taping.

4. New Business

Ms. Link reviewed the charge with the committee noting the committee will encompass both school security and town office security. We will be reviewing current communications plans and look to bring in a consultant to review our plans. Mr. DiCristofaro noted the BOF had received a quote from a company and we could look at reviewing that option in one of our meetings.

There was much discussion regarding developing what problem we are trying to solve and where are areas of improvement needed. Officer Rhoades noted we need to review current security processes already in place and to what extent we want to expand on those. He then reviewed with the committee the difference between armed security and a Security Resource Officer, noting the SRO is an extension of the police. Mr. Reas noted we need to keep cognizant where we think the community wants to fall in coverage and costs associated with the coverage. M. Piscotti noted we need to review our vulnerabilities and then present to the community the plan to minimize those and the costs associated with the plan.

Mr. DiCristofaro requested we all present our top 3 concerns of our exposure in security and communication review at the next meeting. Ms. Link noted she would like to have a proposal ready by December, Mr. DiCristofaro requested November before the budget so we can account for whatever we come up with. We agreed to try and meet every other week, setting the next meeting for September 10, 2018 at 8:45.

5. Audience of Citizens

Ms. Dennett noted that the discussions regarding potential weakness in security should be done under executive session.

6. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Salicrup, seconded by Mr. Piscotti, to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 a.m. Unanimous aye.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Link, Secretary