



**FIRING RANGE BUILDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
APRIL 20, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Chairman Vinnie Loffredo called Meeting to Order.

**Members Present:** Councilman Vinnie Loffredo, Chairman  
Councilman Philip Pessina, Vice Chairman  
Councilman Darnell Ford  
Fire Chief Robert Kronenberger  
Acting Chief of Police Michael Timbro  
Barbara McAuliffe  
Maryann Serra

**Members Absent:** Joseph Bibisi

**Staff Present:** Christopher Holden, Public Works  
Captain John Lozefski, MPD  
Captain Michael DeSena, MPD

**Guest Present:** Richardson Price, Special Agent for the F.B.I.  
Michelle Lee, F.B.I.  
Judy Driscoll, Acting Administrative Officer for the F.B.I.  
Brandt Elwell, ADS Feasibility Study Presenter  
Kerry O'Neal, ADS Feasibility Study Presenter

**2. Approval of the Minutes (February 2, 2021)**

Councilman Pessina made a Motion to approve the FRBC Minutes of February 2, 2021; Seconded by Councilman Ford. There being no discussion or objection, Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Public Comment Opens**

None

**4. Old Business**

**a) F.B.I. Update**

Special Agent Price reported that they were able to do some sort of a mock-up testing with good data; and although he can't speak for any of the financial reimbursement procedure, he knows that the F.B.I. is in place for it when the time comes; that it's been funded. It was confirmed that Special Agent Price's statement was in reference to the agreement with the F.B.I. paying for the initial review and study that is currently being undertaken; and that it's sitting there, waiting to be allocated back to Middletown.

Chairman Loffredo asked where was the F.B.I. on its ability to match the City's funding to fulfill the upcoming project. Special Agent Price replied that while he couldn't speak directly on that subject matter, the fact that they've gotten this hurdle done is a great sign; that they've had people in their Facilities Division who have been intermittently on some of these calls. However, he doesn't have that specific information for him.

**b. Report of Range Activity**

Captain Lozefski advised that the Firing Range has been utilized by the F.B.I. Mondays and Fridays; that the MPD's SWAT Team continues to train on Wednesdays during the day; and that the MPD will begin the officers' annual qualifications next month.



**5. New Business (cont'd)****a) Feasibility Study Update - RDS**

Mr. Holden introduced Brandt Elwell and Kerry O'Neal, from RDS, and said they did a site and eventual follow-up visit, once they came up with a conceptual/simulation design out in the field.

Mr. O'Neal said they just received the data from the acoustical engineer about an hour ago. He advised that the study showed very favorably how well the product worked, and how the reduction of decibels occurred after and during the shooting process; that right now it looks like they're thumbs-up on all of the criteria that's been met.

A couple of charts were introduced to the FRBC – including a firing chart and a numbers and acronyms chart – and Mr. Elwell went over them.

Mr. O'Neal stated that they're currently waiting for the final part of the Acoustical Report so they could do the design of the structure associated with the results found after the test.

Mrs. Serra stated that she was present at the testing, along with Mrs. McAuliffe and (*Captain*) Lozefski; that it was very significant and very impressive. She has a concern with the lead that's in the rubber covering the berm.

Mrs. McAuliffe asked if the size of the small structure used for the testing will change the sound at all. Mr. O'Neal said they have not received that data, although they don't feel it will be significantly different. He added that he does believe there will be a little difference; but he doesn't think it will be discernable at the locations outside the range.

Chief Timbro said he, too, heard the testing from off-site; that it was definitely inaudible. His understanding was that this was accomplished from an enclosed structure. Once confirmed that it was, he added that he doesn't have to be a sound person to tell the FRBC that if they enclose the range it will greatly reduce what's heard, if anything. He explained that, especially with the funding from the F.B.I. not being definite at this point, he's not sure if the 1.5 million would even come close to covering that. He asked if there were going to be additional alternatives should they not be able to fund this solution, which he believed would be the best solution to the problem.

Mr. O'Neal presented pictures of the firing range and said he ran some preliminary numbers. Cost Analysis from the architect for the building came up with \$1.2 million without the shell of the structure. Chief Timbro thanked him for the information and said it looked incredible. Special Agent Price said that while he cannot speak for the F.B.I. on their part in this, he would be very surprised if they didn't come up with a figure to work with.

Chairman Loffredo asked about the lead from the rubber and the lead. Mr. O'Neal said he's actually the patented inventor of the rubber bullet trap over 30 years ago; that the intent was to help eliminate lead and fragmentation caused by shooting into other bullet traps; that it's been very well received nationwide. He then listed the successes this product has had.

After another Q&A period, Chairman Loffredo asked Mr. O'Neal to indicate what further information the FRBC will be receiving from him shortly. Mr. O'Neal said there are two (2) different items:

1. The modeling now; how the acoustical sounds will work pertaining to the proposed range itself; and
2. Providing panels that will be able to slide like barn doors on the back of the range and the western side of the range.

Chairman Loffredo then asked Mr. O'Neal to confirm the Cost Analysis of the \$1.2 million for the material cost for the building. Mr. O'Neal said that was correct; however, it does not include the metal structure that covers the wall – in other words, the roof structure itself. A brief discussion followed.



**5. New Business (cont'd)**

**a) Feasibility Study Update - RDS**

Mrs. Serra complimented Mr. O'Neal for his communication; that she's called him several times and he's always gotten back to her; that he's always clear in his explanations; and that he certainly seems to want to comply with what the FRBC is wanting as far as sound goes, etc.

**b) Payment Application #1**

Mr. Holden first thanked RDS for their presentations; and Special Agent Price for firing up the necessary rounds for the study.

He then said he reviewed the invoice as presented for \$24,628.00 – 50% of the contract – dated March 14, 2021, and he recommended approval for payment. Councilman Pessina made a Motion to approve the payment; Seconded by Fire Chief Kronenberger. There being no discussion or objection, Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Meeting Adjourned**

Mrs. McAuliffe made a Motion to adjourn; Seconded by Mrs. Serra. There being no discussion or objection, Motion passed unanimously.

**Next Firing Range Building Committee Meeting: Tuesday, May 18, 2021, 6:00 P.M.**

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Respectfully Submitted,



Rosa B. Perichi  
Staff