

QUESTIONS FOR DR. WARREN

Responses provided on Nov 24 by Dr. Warren for posting to the Town's website.

1. WE HAVE GOTTEN ALONG WITH THIS BUILDING UNTIL NOW – WHY THE NEED FOR EXPANSION?

The building expansion has been needed for what appears to be quite some time, but the Town has been fortunate enough not to have had a negative occurrence as of yet. However, in risk management, the rule is "if it is predictable, it is preventable", and as the PD facility currently stands, I think it is just a matter of when a negative event occurs, not if.

2. ARE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO A STANDARD FOR A MORE SOPHISTICATED OR LARGER OPERATION?

No, the recommendations stem from all risk management principles utilized today throughout the United States, and the actual written standards were produced by the Delaware Police Chief's Council, which represents a great many smaller sized departments throughout Delaware.

3. WHY CAN'T WE JUST RE-PURPOSE THE EXISTING SPACE TO MEET DEPARTMENT NEEDS?

Some of the items could be addressed through remodeling, however the main problem stems from the actual footprint of the current station being too small to make the necessary changes. For example, you have a closet which is also housing advanced computer and communications equipment, an interview room that also doubles as an office, and a locker room that serves triple duty as an armory and a kitchen, not to mention the other space issues we discussed during the Town meeting.

4. WHAT IS THE DOWNSIDE TO NOT MAKING THE CHANGES?

Someone getting hurt or someone's constitutional rights being violated. (Internally an employee of the Town could get hurt or a suspect, visitor, witness or reporting person could also get hurt or have their rights to privacy violated). These events can easily result in either a State or Federal lawsuit.

5. WITH MEN & WOMEN WORKING WHY WERE SEPARATE BATHROOMS NOT RECOMMENDED?

They should be, and I believe the final plans will allow for this.

Additionally, a separate bathroom for offenders should be under consideration.

6. IS THIS A SOLID FOUNDATION AND PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OR WILL THE NEED FOR MORE EXPANSION SURFACE AGAIN?

Because I don't see the size of the Town growing dramatically and I don't see a tremendous change coming in the Town's policing methodologies, I would not predict any additional changes needed for decades. (20-25 years)