

Project Manager Adds \$1.1 Million to Police HQ

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Jay Barrett/KMXT

Last week when the Kodiak City Council finally awarded the contract to build a new police station, it also approved a contract with the designer of the building to oversee the project. The construction contract with Roger Hickel Contracting of Anchorage was over 15-million dollars, while the construction supervision contract with U-S-K-H was just over 1-million dollars.

The need for a separate construction manager on city projects is something Councilman Tom Walters has long railed against, and he did again with the jail contract:

-- (Project 1 23 sec "We're paying \$1.1 million ... it's done properly.")

Walters said that since professionals are involved, it makes him question the practice:

-- (Project 2 42 sec "I
guess what I have ... how to fly the helicopter.")

Councilman

Jack Maker said he saw Walters' point of view, but because of the size and scope of the project, he thought a project manager was needed:

-- (Project 3 41 sec "As
it states in the ... that they're in right now.")

The project
management contract ultimately passed on a 6-to-nothing vote.

U-S-K-H

went through numerous design exercises and revisions on the project over the past several years. They were forced to start and stop several times as the site of the project moved from downtown to Near Island to Mill Bay Road, and the scope went from the so-called "Taj Mahal," with a fire station and city offices at over 30-million-dollars, to now, just a police station with room available to install a jail at a later date.

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