

## **Town Office Building Committee**

### **Regular Meeting of Thursday, December 20, 2012**

Chairman Jim Lally called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

In attendance: Jim Lally, George Keithan, David Gross, Lou Annino, Scott Perry, Kate Novick, Gina Regolo; Daniel Haas, Cathy Iino (ex officio).

Also present: Brian Humes, Jacunski Humes; Don McDougal, Director of Emergency Management; Carol Reimers.

David Gross made a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings held Oct 25, Nov 14 and Nov 29, 2012. The motion was seconded by Daniel Haas. The motion carried unanimously.

Brian Humes reviewed the structural engineering assessment provided by BVH of the modular building and the old barn adjacent to the existing town hall. It was their conclusion that the modular has reached the end of its useful life and that, while safe to occupy at the moment, its “construction details and materials . . . were not intended for long-term service.” The barn is not structurally sound enough to be renovated for public occupancy; it should be disassembled and reassembled elsewhere, sold, or demolished.

Brian then presented an alternative concept for the town hall renovation that reflected the most recent space needs assessment. The proposed renovation would include improved parking and traffic flow; it would require the removal of the barn; it would include the Office of Emergency Management and the Resident State Trooper’s office. It would be a single story and as such would not require a full elevator, thus reducing the project cost. There would be an identifiable main entrance and meeting room large enough to accommodate 30 to 40 people.

The committee agreed that if we were to move forward with the new concept, we would need to address the barn issue in the community, locate alternative and accessible storage areas for those groups currently using the barn, ensure that the design would not adversely affect the fire company’s operation, and procure a geotechnical study to determine whether a new basement would be feasible and cost-effective.

Dan Haas made a motion to authorize Brian Humes to arrange for soil boring and a geotechnical study of the proposed town office building renovation site in an amount not to exceed \$3,000. David Gross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Cathy Iino will confirm that the TOB has the authority to make this expenditure. If necessary, she will call a special meeting to discuss the matter with the selectmen. Gina Regolo confirmed that there are capital funds available that have been earmarked for the TOB project, including expenses associated with preliminary study and site work.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 17, 2013

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Regolo

Acting Recording Secretary