Chatham Building Committee Meeting
September 22,2014
6:45 pm

Ron announced at 6:45 that the meeting would be delayed because we were waiting for you, but he invited questions and comments in the meantime. There were several (!), and matters discussed included the following:

- the evolution of the Preservation Committee to Building Committee
- memos from both the Fire Marshall's office and the insurance loss control adjuster, detailing why Town Hall currently is not in compliance as a meeting facility
- an explanation of the process that's been followed in order to present to the Town enough specific information to make an informed decision on the warrant article that will be voted on at Town Meeting, requesting funding for improvements
-an estimate of the impact that proposed improvements would have, if funded, on property taxes

Also, Bill announced that Chatham now has a website, ChathamNH.org and said that all meeting notices and meeting minutes will be posted there. He emphasized the Committee's desire for transparency and to do what's best for Chatham.

Present: Bonnie Arbogast, Lisa Lewis, Mel Cherry, Lincoln Garland, Steve Oppenheim, Frank and Margaret Lunn, Carl and Mary Lecizsca

Committee Members Present: Ron Briggs (Chair), Bill Perry (Selectman), Barbara Eastman, Susan Logan, Maryann Eastman (scribe)

It was discussed that after doing much research, the Committee brought in an architect to assist us with trying to determine what was needed to meet current building requirements as well as the needs of the town, going forward 50 to 100 years.

The current goal has been determined that in order to use the building and be in compliance, there is much work to be done.

A second phase, in the future, will be implemented, to build a proper storage unit for files and offices for Town Business.

It was mentioned that the town's website currently has all of the Building Committee meeting notes and accompanying documents posted.

One person protested the idea of using a bond to fund the buildings repair and the building of a new office and storage space. Reserve funds and Bonding will actually help to lower tax bill. Additionally, it is best to keep the timeline on the building project fairly tight and not spread it out over a long period of time as that gets costly

A suggestion was made to look into shipping containers as an office as well as storage, although the aesthetic factor is not good, they may be fairly inexpensive.

It was discussed that the Letter to the Townspeople should include the following:

1. Purpose and mission Statement

2. Intro by Susan Logan
3. Letter from Selectman Wayne Infinger
4. Needs to Bring Town Hall up to code
5. Funding , explanations and math
6. History of the Town Hall
7. Conclusion and invitation for input

Contact info for all committee members will also be posted in this letter.

Date of materials due to Bill Perry : Oct 5
Date of Letter to be Mailed out : Oct 13th

Date of next Public Forum: Oct 29, 7 pm at Town Hall

In the meantime, Ron Briggs will meet with Bernie Quint to obtain a quote for the cost of work needed on the Town Hall.

Posters announcing the Public Forum will be posted at Town Hall, Library and the meeting date will be announced in the papers.

If there are any errors or corrections, please let me know
Respectfully submitted by

Maryann Eastman