

TOWN OF CHATHAM
SELECTMEN'S WORK SESSION MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2015

Present:

Bill Perry

Jason Eastman

Wayne Infinger

Melvin Cherry

Bonnie Arbogast

Shawn Bergeron of Bergeron Technical Services

Lisa Lewis was delayed, but did attend the end of the meeting

Melvin Cherry discussed his inspection of the Town Hall building. There is no easy access to the building in order to access the floor joists and support for the building. Mel recommended that an access spot in the building be created. Bill Perry is to contact David Emery to get estimates for jacking and stabilizing the building and to create a permanent access point.

Meeting turned over to Shawn Bergeron for a discussion of how best to proceed with obtaining estimates from contractors for the new construction options for the new municipal building to be proposed at Town meeting. The construction estimates would be based on complete code compliance as required by the State of New Hampshire. Bergeron Technical Services would develop construction estimates for the two options and this will be utilized for the amount of money requested at Town meeting for the two options to be included in separate warrant articles. Option "A" would be to construct a Town office building large enough to hold all Town business meetings, elections, the Town clerk's office and the annual Town meeting. Option "B" would be to construct a new municipal building that would hold our regular Town business meetings, elections and Town clerk's office. Included in option "B" would be the minimum upgrades needed to be made to the existing Town hall to hold our annual meetings.

In order to obtain estimates from contractors it is necessary for a standard set of specifications to be developed to be given to contractors so that the estimates received would be based on the same requirements. Bergeron Technical Services proposed a cost of \$5,500 to provide the services outlined in these minutes. All three selectmen voted in favor of this proposal and have instructed Bergeron to proceed.

The selectmen are researching possible methods of funding the proposed project. There may be the possibility of grant funding for the improvements to the existing Town Hall building.

There was discussion as to whether the selectmen should have a special meeting prior to Town meeting to present the construction estimates. It was decided by the selectmen to forgo any additional meeting and instead send a letter to voters outlining the proposals, costs associated therewith and the impact on taxes in more detail prior to the annual Town meeting.

Mel Cherry suggested that a heating expert be consulted to determine the most cost effective method of heating the existing Town Hall. Mel Cherry also suggested that the Town install meter shut offs on all existing Town buildings.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15