

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
TOWN HALL RELOCATION COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, November 7, 2023, at Wilmington Town Hall
MINUTES

Attendance: Bonnie Lorimer, Len Chapman, John Gannon, Sarah Fisher, Therese Lounsbury, Sheila Osler, Alice Greenspan, Christine Richter, Jessica Roberts
Called to order at 5:02pm. No changes to the agenda.

John officially welcomed the new members to the committee and explained our task. Therese shared ahead several maps and property cards for locations brainstormed at the last meeting, as well as for the current Town Office buildings for the square footage currently used. John shared that he had reviewed the Public Safety Building Committee minutes for help in steps to be taken, but they quickly settled on a parcel of land for the building. Sarah shared that Rob Wheeler had reached out to the town to see if there would be any interest in his property. It would have to be a collaborative effort because of the high cost of the property. There is a question whether Vermont Land Trust or other entities (i.e. Vermont Land Conservation) would be interested in preserving such an iconic piece of Vermont and our town. The property has town sewer, but not town water. Even if it is not a good location for Town Offices, it is worth preserving.

Committee continued to review the viability of a variety of properties:

- Sitzmark – not sure whether this property is back under contract or not.
- Fair Buildings at OSEC – (new idea) make use of the space the current Fair buildings are on and make other arrangements for the Fair? Concerns shared about parking availability.
- OSEC – more discussion on whether the old section could be re-done.
- Druke-Fawcett – there is a plan in the works to develop a manufacturing campus.
- Flea Market – no water/sewer, but potentially in the near future.
- 53 North Main (old Orchard Inn) – concern regarding access and bumping current housing.
- Hermann’s Clock Tower - under contract
- Suburban Propane – town water & sewer; 1.6 acres
- Mill St – Erhard property, gives access to Shafter Park, has town water & sewer.
- Acreage east of Tallulah’s - further from the town center
- Current building – can it be flipped? The concern is that the vault has to remain on a ground floor for its cement structure, also not planning for the future, as the space is maximized as it is.
- Merrill Dr (new idea) – small parcel opposite shopping plaza? Open land.

Jessica Roberts shared that 38 feet is the maximum building height allowed to the peak.
For next agenda – wish list for the property/building phase, more review of properties

Motion made by Sarah Fisher to approve the minutes of October 3, 2023, as written. Seconded by Christine Richter. Motion carried.

Next Meeting on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 5:00pm, in-person or via Zoom.
Adjourned at 5:55pm.

ATTEST:

Therese M. Lounsbury, Clerk

ATTEST: _____
John Gannon

ATTEST: _____
Sarah Fisher

ATTEST: _____
Christine Richter

ATTEST: _____
Alice Greenspan

ATTEST: _____
Bonnie Lorimer

ATTEST: _____
Leonard Chapman

ATTEST: _____
Sheila Osler

ATTEST: _____
Jessica Roberts