

**TOWN OF SOUTH HERO**  
**Town Office Study Committee Minutes**  
Monday August 7, 2023 6pm  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
In person only, no zoom option

**Committee members present-** Doug Patterson, Mike Carroll, Carl Frenning, Nate Hayward, Anne Zolotas, Steve Robinson, Naomi King **Public present-** Tim Maxham, Bonnie Rocheleau

Meeting called to Order 6:10 pm

Discussion- We discussed the flood damage in the towns we had planned to visit and agreed that those visits would need to be postponed.

I shared that I'd learned we would be unlikely to receive much state grant money because we are considered a "Gold Town".

Anne brought up the idea of contacting a modular home company like Huntington Homes to see if they did municipal projects. She and Nate have both had good experiences with them and it might be faster than a stick built building.

Nate brought some "drawings" of what a new building might look like on the Meeting House side of Route 2. It could sit on the site of the old red firehouse and be part of the new town park area.

Tim expressed concerns about existing congestion in that area. Someone else mentioned that the Meeting House foundation repair project might cause more congestion and delays for a Town Office project. The conversation circled back to considering building a new Town Office on the current office lot.

We compared the current site on the south side of Route 2 to the new site on the north side of Route 2.

The current site already has its own septic system but it would likely need to be upgraded.

It might be tricky to have the building site right next to our busy office.

The Rescue building (currently the craft shop) would need to be razed to make space for the new town office.

We would need to shift our parking area and perhaps see if Billy Lawrence would rent us some space for parking between our building and Jolley's until the project is finished.

It might be faster and less complicated to build here as we would not be impacted by the Meeting House work.

It would be nice to have an attractive building on this site.

Conversely, building on the Meeting House/Town Park site on the north side of Route 2 would mean joining a shared septic system but it would be a new system with more capacity.

It might be difficult to have our building project going on with the Meeting House foundation work.

The old red fire station would need to be razed to make space for the new town office.

The parking is limited currently but there will be spaces available with the new town park.

The Town Office building project could be impacted by the Meeting House project schedule.

We agreed that the general layout and size of a new Town Office building would be about the same for either site so we should try to move forward on getting a plan and some estimates.

I will get a report ready to present to the Select Board and ask if we can advertise a "Request for Proposals".

The meeting adjourned @ 8pm ish.

Next meeting possibly on Monday 9/18.

