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TOWN OF STERLING
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Minutes of the 1835 Town Hall Committee

April 15, 2015

The meeting opened at 6:04 pm at the 1835 Town Hall Building. Members present were Vern Gaw, Ron Pichierri, Bob Jones and Joann Drown. Members absent were Phil Nash and Danielle Ray.

Bob made a motion, seconded by Ron, to accept the Recorder's report as corrected. The motion passed 4-0.

The Treasurer reported that the Maintenance account balance is \$3,097.71, the Paint account balance is \$5,060.11, the Window Restoration account balance is \$10,388.00, Design/Engineer account has a balance of \$3,580.34, and the Revolving account balance is \$8,421.23. Vern made a motion, seconded by Bob, to accept the Treasurer's report with two questions - the Design/Engineer account (which was closed at the 2014 Town Meeting), and the Window Restoration Account. The committee voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Vern explained to the committee that the work needed to be done on the roof will cost \$225,000.00. Vern explained that the Architects explained that Tom Rutherford cannot be the general contractor on the roofing work. Vern and Bob went into the attic and took pictures of the structure and the work that needs to be done. Vern also stated that the roof work will not be done in 2015.

Vern also explained that the columns need to be jacked up, and a 36" square put under each column to keep them above or equal to the level of the floor. At some point in the past, cement was poured over the granite porch floor, which caused each column to be lower than the newer cement floor. This lets water stay around each column base. The column on the far right, looking at the front of the building, seems to be worse than the others.

Vern reported that the rear door crash bar has been installed on the back door. Curt, from Jim's Lock and Key, moved the closer slightly to the right, and the door works even better.

Ron made a motion, seconded by Bob, to amend the invoice dated January 2015 not to exceed \$800.00 to provide a panic bar for the back door on the first floor of the building, to the actual amount of \$908.87, paid to Jim's Lock and Key, 264 Central St., Leominster MA 01453, invoice #66915 dated 4/10/15. The motion carried 4-0.

The committee discussed the paint project on the south side of the building. Vern stated that Tom Rutherford is in charge of the project. Robichaud will scrape and repair the south side, and the Sheriff's men will paint the building. Vern stated that Sherwin-Williams sells a paint called 'Duration' which is very good.

Vern put together a report titled '1835 Town Hall Advisory Report - work needed'. There are 20 items on the report. The committee read it and suggested Reinforce roof and re-roof be #1, complete sewage

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connection to Fire Dept building #2, Install sprinklers #3 (which should be part of #1) and Jack front portico and install impervious 1" material under the wood columns to raise them above the concrete and prevent rot #5.

Joann suggested that our 1835 Booklets be handed out at Town Meeting.

Bob made a motion, seconded by Ron, to reimburse Vern for lead check paint swabs purchased at Lowe's, invoice #7569764 in the amount of \$10.60. The committee voted 4-0 in favor of this motion, money to come from the Maintenance account.

Ron will arrange to have the floors cleaned and waxed for the usual annual cleaning, including stairs, bathrooms and 2nd floor.

The Committee discussed opening the building on Memorial Day.

Ron suggested this Committee submit names for future members. Vern asked if the Committee would vote to ask the following people to join the Committee: Robert Barwise, Tom Sabourin on Maple St., Eric Starbard on Tuttle Rd., should they be willing to serve. Ron made a motion to do so, seconded by Bob, and the motion passed 4-0.

Ron made a motion, seconded by Bob, to add two names to the submit list: Marion Larson and Isabelle Wheat. The committee voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Vern gave each Committee member a picture of the top of the chimney of the 1835 building, which shows a missing cap.

There was a short discussion about Memorial Day bunting

Vern also suggested that the Committee look into getting a brass plaque that states the date the 1835 was built and also that it stands on the site of the first Town Hall in Worcester County.

Ron made a motion, seconded by Bob, to adjourn the meeting. The Committee voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Drown, Recorder