



Williamstown Public Safety Building Proposal Williamstown Fire Dept Williamstown Ambulance Service.

In 2009 a committee made up of members of the Selectboard, the Fire Dept., the Ambulance Service and citizens in the community started to work on a plan for a new Public Safety Building that would house both the Fire and Ambulance services for the next 75-100 years. Along with architects from Black River Design the committee worked diligently to design a building that would be functional both now and into the future. Special considerations were given in the heating and cost of utilities for the building and the future growth of the town and its two services.

In the past year the Fire Dept. responded to over 106 calls, and the ambulance service responded to 349 calls for service, a total of over 2500 hours were spent on emergencies, trainings, and checking equipment. These hours do not include the 200 or so hours each firefighter must take to be certified as a level One Fire Fighter. Nor does it include the 72 hours of class time for entry level certification (EMR) or another minimum of 110 hours for the next level (EMT-B). Then there is an option to take the next step in patient care and become an Intermediate EMT with another 104 hours minimum of training. The old days of just joining the department and fighting fire or caring for a patient are over.

Change is sometimes hard, and often times costly to accept. In the 1960's funeral homes did all the ambulance providing--one stop shopping!! Firefighters went into smoky buildings with just a big gulp of air and held their breath. Local businesses allowed their employees to leave work to fight fires or care for a sick or injured patient. Firefighters were notified of a fire by the red phone and the large siren on top of the fire house. Patient care involved driving fast and holding the patient's hand hoping they'll make it to the hospital in time. Come forward 50 years and both ambulance personnel and firefighters are highly trained at some expense. Pagers have replaced the siren and the red phone for emergency notification at over \$350 each. Firefighters all must be "Packed out" with air to be fighting fire. Businesses can no longer afford to let their employees respond to emergencies since they, too, are working with skeleton crews in an attempt to save money. The time for a new building has come, continuing status quo is certainly going to cost more money in the long run. Both buildings need work to bring them up to code. Contractors are eager for the work, the cost of materials is never going to go down. Both Emergency Services ask for your support on this project. Thank you.

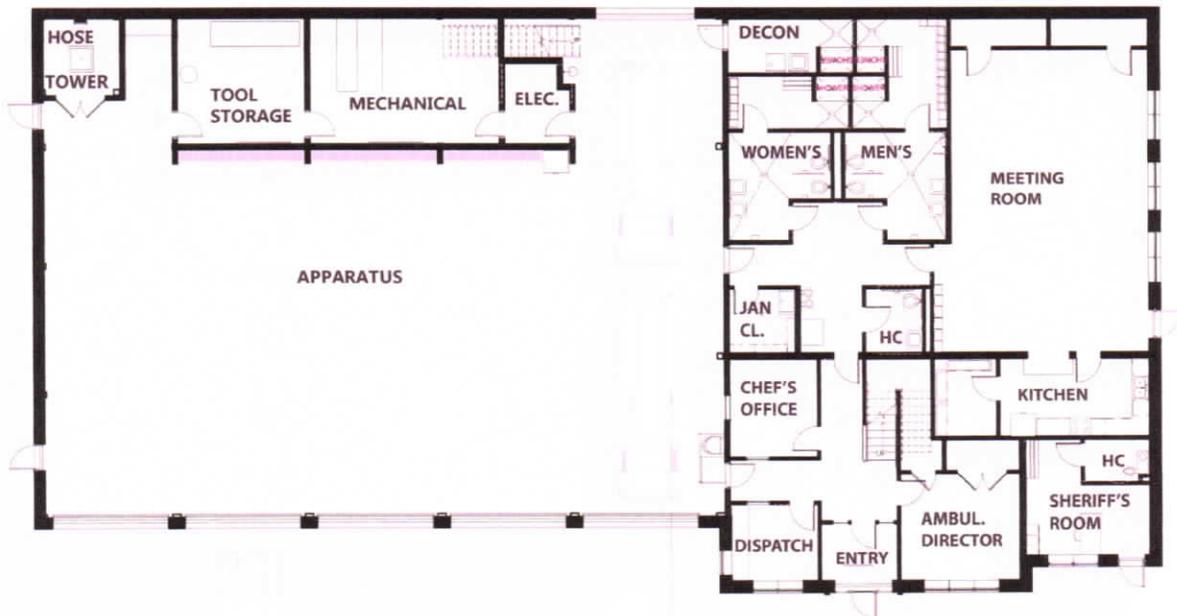
Ted Nykiel, Fire Chief

Gordon A. Murray, Ambulance Director

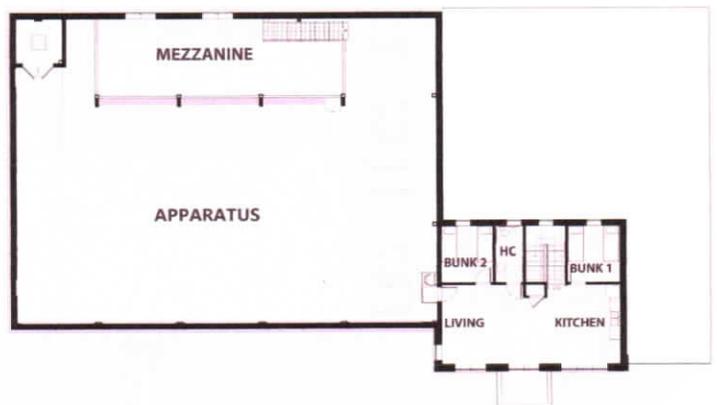
Highlights Of the Plan

- Ambulance and Fire (Emergency Services) in common facility
- Utilize land already owned by Town
- No loss of taxes.
- Meadow Street and Brockway Hill Road
- Add to the Grand list tax bases; the present Fire Station at 154 Depot Street will be sold for commercial development.
- Provide a designated community safe haven.
- Provide an emergency shelter
- Provide a clean space for the ambulances.

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



Public Safety Building Description

The building as proposed brings all elements of Public Safety together in one facility, is designed for a 75-100 year life and includes:

- **4 bays for fire trucks**
- **A double depth bay for (2) ambulances**
- **Hose drying tower**
- **Indoor washing of apparatus regardless of weather outside**
- **Locker rooms, male and female**
- **Operations offices and communications for ambulance and fire**
- **Space for law enforcement; Orange County Sheriffs or other future arrangements**
- **Overnight provisions for storm standby crews or future 24 hour manning.**
- **Fully sprinkled and smoke and heat alarms (not present in either present buildings.)**
- **Full VOSHA compliance including exhaust extraction systems.**
- **Hazmat decontamination provisions for ambulance and fire personal and personal protective gear.**
- **Large meeting room for training personal.**
- **Emergency community shelter for storm, power outages, floods with full standby electric and heat.**

Public Service Building What We're Doing to Make This A Green Building

- **Very well insulated, to reduce heat and energy cost over the years.**
- **Durable, efficient windows, high insulation levels and tight construction.**
- **Heat recovery ventilation, plus high efficiency controls for truck exhaust ventilation and good indoor air quality.**
- **High efficiency wood pellet fired boiler, with propane backup, to save cost.**
- **Mechanical Engineering projects the wood pellet fired boiler system with radiant heating in apparatus bay floor will operate at 50% of the cost of fossil fuel (oil fired) system and with future expected spikes in oil cost, even greater savings.**
- **Solar Domestic Hot Water; Solar panels on roof (produced in Williamstown).**

Select Board Support

Williamstown Select Board have committed their support for the Public Safety Building and for the \$2,507,640 year bond. It is pointed out bond cost are in the 2% - 3% range, an all time low and could easily grow to 5%-6% as the economy recovers if construction is delayed. Also, the architects Design Estimate for the project was \$3,200,000.00 sending out Request for Proposals for bids December 2012 came in at \$2,507,640. Including 10% contingency and up fitting cost. These are firm until bond vote at 2013 Town Meeting. Forecast are these bids would have come in higher had the Request for Proposals been delayed until after Town Meeting.

"WHY NOW"

When we started this building project we felt that we could fund some if not all of it through "Grants", at the time there were stimulus, Homeland security, and one that was for Fire Stations, but with the change in leadership in Washington D. C. and all the natural disasters in the U.S. like tornado's to tropical storm Irene, those source's have disappeared with little hope of any in the future. With the slow economy we were able to get a lower construction cost, 2.5 million versus architect's estimate of 3.2 million and the low interest of 2-3% this would be the best time to invest in our town, children, grand children, great grand children future's

Public Safety building Development 2009

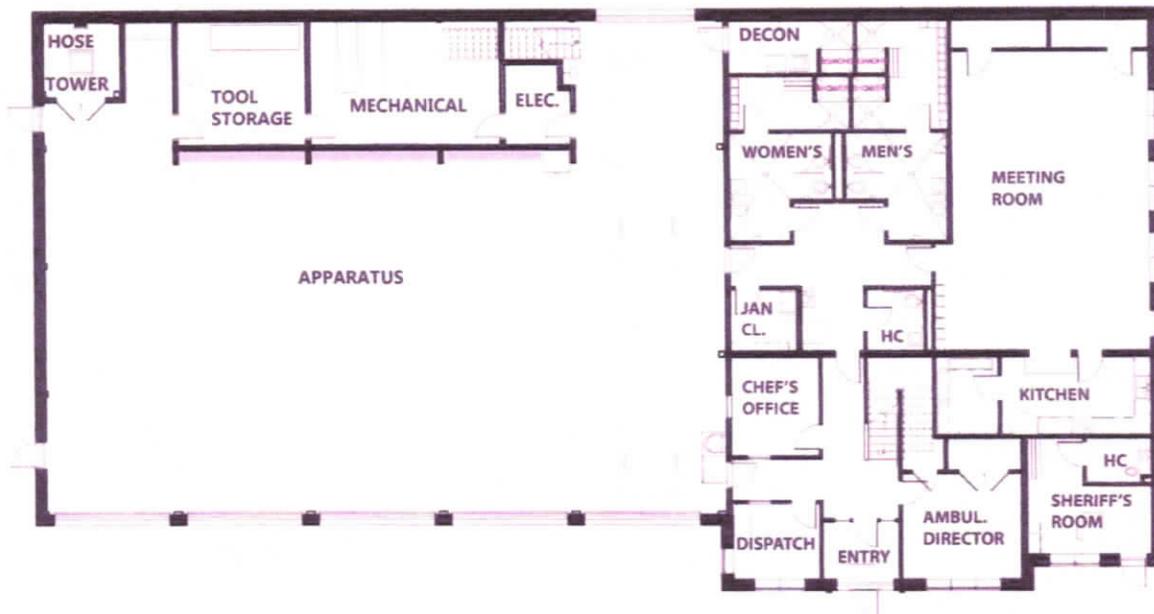
The Select Board recognized the need to look into the need to upgrade the housing for the Fire and Ambulance equipment and appointed a 5 person committee to identify future goals. The Depot Street fire house (by best information available) was built circa 1944-1945 approximate as an automotive repair garage and purchased in 1962 and converted to a fire station. The Meadow Street ambulance building was originally part of Lacillade Lumber, then became part of the highway garage property. In the early 2000's townspeople, students of WMHS got together and remodeled Lacillade truck garage creating a Teen Center for local youths. In 2008 the ambulance service took over the then defunct. Teen Center making it their center of operation. As a first step, the committee participated in a public service exercise with 19 Architectural Engineering students at Vermont Technical College at no cost to Williamstown. We had 19 designs, then boiled it down to the (4) best. Taking the best features from each came up with the proposed building.

Black River Design was retained to prepare the final design resulting in proposals being solicited and General Contractor and wood pellet heating system provider being selected with firm proposal bids. American Survey Co. Of Williamstown complete all the site work, soil samples, test boring and proper location of the building on the property. The project is shovel ready contingent upon approval of bonding at Annual Town Meeting 2013. The bond request includes total proposed building costs, 10% contingency funding and up fitting (furniture, cabinetry, radios, etc.). Based on bond request of \$2,507,640.00 and present Grand list value, taxes on a \$150,000.00 assessment will add \$90.00 in taxes for fiscal year 2013/2014, 2014/2015. Over the period of a 20 year bond, the payments reduce each fiscal period as the bond is reduced.

Highlights Of the Plan

- ↳ Ambulance and Fire (Emergency Services) in common facility
 - ↳ Utilize land already owned by Town
- No loss of taxes.
- Meadow Street and Brockway Hill Road
- Add to the Grand list tax bases; the present Fire Station at 154 Depot Street will be sold for commercial development.
- Provide a designated community safe haven.
- Provide an emergency shelter
- Provide a clean space for the ambulances.

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

