

Carroll Town Hall Meeting - November 6, 2014

Facilitated by North Country Council

55 Participants

Break-out Group Responses to Questions

Question 1: Why is a town hall important?

Functions (2), meetings (2)

Town meeting

Community center

Center of the community, a benefit for residents

Public place to gather the community

Community pride, connection to community, sense of community

Social meeting place

Central location/place (4)

Social hub

Town hall is our center, meetings place

Gathering place

Identity, human connections

Community events - weddings/recep., anniversaries, dances, parties, political events

Community kitchen - functions

Public events

Asset to taxpayers that can be used by residents for special events

Foundation of the town

Town government/admin hub (5) - voting (3), town offices, pay taxes, Selectboard, Planning Board

Central location for community information (6), new residents can get their bearings

Emergency operations center, emergency shelter (5)

So you don't have to go to another larger town hall

Central place for neighboring communities to have special meetings

Used by state agencies

Employment opportunities

Safe keeping of town records/vault (4)

Food pantry (3)

Recreation facility/gym (4) - after school, summer recreation program, seniors (2), kids & adults

Education activities - children, seniors

Senior center

Link to past

Piece of town history

Historical society archives (2)

This building contains a huge amount of history, plus town history.

History

Historic character

Landmark (this building)

North/south and east west center

Reference point on map

Library (5), expand - books, video, computer resources

Town safety services - central location, admin.

Safe area above water problems

Question 2: What does the town hall need in order to meet those functions and values?

Fire-proof vault for records (3) - space

Room for all functions of town offices/office space (5), incl. for maps/zoning maps, meeting rooms (3), office/storage space for all employees, and supplies - floor space, separation

Additional meeting rooms

Information space, bulletin boards

Better display for town info, tax maps, applications

Resource center for town info

ADA compliance, easy access (handicap)

Handicap entrance and bathrooms, ADA

Efficient - utilities - heating, lighting (2), etc

Insulation, new windows

Adequate septic, heat, lighting (2)

New furnace, efficient heating plant (2) or climate control

Renewable energy, e.g., wood pellets/solar, biomass

Energy options - solar, wind, geothermal

Up to date security system (3), cameras, fire
Sprinkler system

Bathrooms (2)

Additional main floor bathrooms

Sufficient bathrooms (2) and showers

Code compliance throughout building (3)

Generator for emergencies (4)

Toilet, generator, 2-way radio, food (2), space

Kitchen for emergency needs

Cots (2), blankets (2)

Shelter assets as required - state & federal compliance

Aesthetics - looks good, sucky sound

Large space, i.e. gym (3)

Space for 200+ people (2)

Gathering space

Large meeting room - general use, operative PA system

Locked storage for tables and chairs

AV equipment

Adequate parking (2), additional parking, sufficient for all activities and residents

Parking lot update/paving

Parking lot lighting (2), adequate lighting

Parking (2), functions, public, employees

Economical

Support of community

Volunteers

Money

\$

Community support

Kitchen area (3) with storage, freezer, stove, cabinets, sink, fridge, etc

Food pantry (2)

Library (2) with computer access, shelves

Police & emergency center

911 communication

Flag

Good signage and directions

Easy access to main roads

Recreation supplies and equipment

Outdoor area for activities - community garden area, ADA

Other Comments

Fees for functions to pay for energy and septic

Function manager or coordinator for space and equipment

Regular maintenance

Town hall has multiple uses important to all town residents. This town hall is unique in that way.

Perhaps a complex of buildings to house different needs, i.e., library

Town hall needs to adapt to increased population and its needs.

Keep everything together. One stop.

Hard to separate this town hall from a newer building [when responding to the questions]