

Notes on Walkthrough of Public Buildings  
May 17, 2022  
Kord Scott, Bill Dunkel, Meghan Chambers (Efficiency VT)

**TOWN OFFICE**

- Kord and I met Meghan Chambers at Town Office at 10:00 AM
- She mentioned a bill in VT legislature (H. 518) that will make more funds available for energy related projects.
- Not clear if H.518 has become a law yet. (Bill will check with Carolyn Partridge)
- Meghan said there will be a lot of competition for these funds, so fill out forms (?) in advance; projects connected to fossil fuel use (such as a boiler upgrade) are unlikely to be approved.
- Fiberglass insulation in basement needs to be removed. Blue board rigid foam insulation or spray foam needed instead.
- Get estimate from Farnham and/or VT Foam Insulation
- Basement should be first priority; then attic
- Efficiency VT incentive is available for this kind of work

**TOWN GARAGE**

- Not much that can be done, barring massive investment, to make this building energy efficient.
- All the lights in the garage should be converted to LEDs asap before Efficiency VT incentive for lighting upgrade is phased out.
- She recommends one or two LED lights be installed inside the big outdoor shed; incentives available.
- No incentive available for insulating large garage doors.
- Kord checked with Richard about whether more insulation is needed in the garage office; this doesn't seem to be a high priority.

## MEETING HOUSE

- Bill will check to see if the building is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. If so, there are rules about what kinds of changes and upgrades can or can't be done in order to remain on the Registry.
- The town needs to decide how it wants the Meeting House to be used in the future. If it is just to have a yearly Town Meeting, and library and Strong Living once a week, then not much needs to be done. If, in addition, it is to be used for S.B. meetings (and other regular meetings), community events, weddings and other rentals, more extensive improvements will be needed.
- Kord and Bill think that a committee consisting of the Friends of the Meeting House, the Meeting House Committee, Michael Pelton and perhaps representatives of some other town organizations (Conservation Committee?, WCO?, Planning Commission?) might spearhead this discussion.
- Can just the downstairs room be made more energy efficient by insulating the walls and above the ceiling? (See 2017 energy audit.) The upstairs sanctuary has three heating grates near the pulpit that provide some access to the space between the floor and the ceiling of the downstairs room. Some insulation appears to have been inserted into this space, but it is hard to see how far it extends. If this is the only access to the space between the lower ceiling and the sanctuary floor, it will be very difficult to insulate this space and weatherize just the lower (library) level.
- If the lower level alone can't be weatherized, the attic could be insulated (see energy audit). This probably would be expensive.
- Mehgan thinks Window Dressers interior storm window inserts are a great option for weatherizing sanctuary windows at a reasonable price.
- Efficiency VT weatherization rebates top out at \$3,000. However, other money may be available through H. 518, ARPA and various grants which could make major improvements affordable.
- Bill will ask VT Foam to give us an estimate of various degrees of weatherization improvements.