

TOWN HALL BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

To The Citizens Of Ipswich:

Furthering our studies for the need of additional office space to care for the administration of town business, your committee made a preliminary report to the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and Planning Board on November 19, 1952. In this we made estimates of costs for each of five different plans.

Since then, your committee has held meetings with these town officials together with joint meetings with the School Building and Sewerage Committees fully realizing the 'ability to pay' for these several capital needs was of the utmost importance to us all.

As a result, your committee has adopted plan five of its preliminary report with some additions to make available enough space in the present Town Hall Building to take care of the immediate requirements for good administration of our town affairs.

We therefore submit for your approval the following program to accomplish this end: the first part permanent and the second temporary.

1. Construct a new Police Station and Court Room as an addition to our present Fire Station at an estimated cost

of \$77,000 complete with furnishings.

2. Using the area made available in the old building by this new construction, revamp the first floor to meet present needs for additional office space, minor repairs and complete painting inside and out to make this building presentable until such time as a better understanding of the town's capital outlays is available. The estimated cost of this is \$25,000.

Preliminary plans are included in our report, all of which speak for themselves and have been fully discussed with town officials.

Financing of the new Police Station should be done by a 20 year bond issue which would not cost the town in excess of 50¢ on the tax rate for the first year and scaling down to 35¢ at maturity, interest charges included, based on present valuation. First year payment would amount to around \$1.00 provided the money comes from taxation.

Regarding alterations to the old building, we understand funds are available that could be used to help

pay for these changes but leave the entire financing program to the Finance Committee. Such alterations could be bonded over a ten year period should such financing be desired. Our architect, Mr. Ray Thibedeau, has worked with us throughout and has supplied us with very valuable advice, plans and estimates so that we could present the various ideas to the town. In him we have every confidence.

Should the town accept this report and adopt this recommendation we suggest this committee be continued to carry out the project and assure you of our sincere efforts to see the job well done. Our estimates are conservative and your committee recommends the adoption of the program which

would be a start on the capital new construction that faces us at a minimum cost at this time. Otherwise we all feel that the past three years of studies have exhausted our ideas and would ask to be discharged. We have made every effort to function in the best interests of the town and take this opportunity of thanking our many town officials and others who have cooperated and made these reports possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome Richardson, Chairman
M. Charles Arthur, Clerk
Stanley M. Bennett
Earl L. Elliott

February 16, 1953
For Annual Town Meeting
March 2, 1953