

The Municipal Overview/Study Committee has been working since the fall of 2004 with John Rahill, of Black River Design, Architects to review the Town's upcoming building needs. This report reflects the research by John and the recommendations of the committee members, who spent many evenings reviewing information and ideas about the future of our buildings and institutions in the town of Middlesex.

BUILDING COMMITTEE:

Walter Kelley, Selectboard
 Steve Martin
 Paul Zabriskie
 Mike Patterson
 Rita Ricketson
 Karen Greenwood
 Cindy Carlson

The charge from the Select board to the Study Committee was to work with the consultant to:

- A. Identify and describe the long term facility needs for the town:
 - a. Town Offices
 - b. Road Department
 - c. Fire Department
 - d. Whole Town Meeting Place
 - e. Middlesex Historical Society
 - f. Other Anticipated needs
- B. Review the existing facilities.
- C. Explore options available to the Town, with an eye toward achieving efficiencies through sharing of facilities.
- D. Provide rough cost projections for the selected options and potential grants/funding.

The Committee met four times over the Fall and Winter to review and discuss the needs and possible solutions to the existing space problems.

We have taken the somewhat bold step of adding up all the costs of the new construction and renovation options that are needed by the town. Although these costs will almost certainly be inaccurate, since we are too early in the specific discussions about the individual projects, it is useful to see the comparative costs of different solutions, and the savings that can potentially be realized by creating spaces with multiple uses.

For this reason, the individual costs for each project solution should be viewed as preliminary. Every year building costs go up, so these numbers need to be evaluated each year. Recently the construction cost inflation factor has been 5-10% per year.

