

# TOWN OF WINDERMERE

## Proposed Town Hall Enhancements Public Information Session

July 31, 2023

### PRESENT:

Town Manager Robert Smith, Town Council Member Tom Stroup, Town Council Member Molly Rose, Public Works Director Tonya Elliott-Moore, Mr. John Fitzgibbon, and Town Clerk Dorothy Burkhalter were present.

#### 1. THE WORKSHOP CALLED TO ORDER

Manager Smith called the public information session to order at 6:00pm.

#### 2. REVIEW OF PROPOSED TOWN HALL ENHANCEMENTS

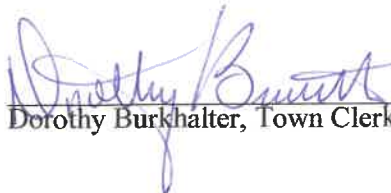
- a. Presentation
- b. Public Comment & Questions

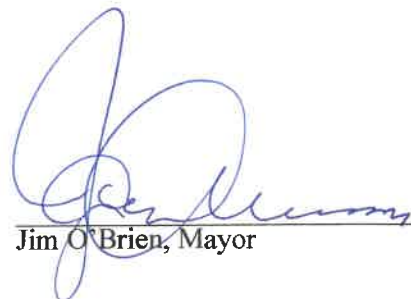
Manager Smith turned the floor over to Public Works Director Elliott-Moore. Director Elliott-Moore commented on the proposed project and Historical Architect, Mr. Tom Price. She then turned the floor over to Mr. John Fitzgibbon. Mr. Fitzgibbon reviewed the specifics of the proposed project, which the Historic Preservation Board had reviewed. He reviewed the following areas: safety, accessibility and functionality, historical aesthetic improvements, and additional enhancements. He commented on moving the ADA ramp, kitchen upgrades, wing walls, new entry and storage pantry, stage accessibility, restroom enhancements, addition of a multi-purpose room, security equipment room, and roof modifications. After Mr. Fitzgibbon completed his presentation, Manager Smith opened the floor to the public. First to speak was Member Rose. Member Rose questioned how the historic designation would remain with some of the proposed changes. Mr. Price commented on the Historic Preservation Board's past review and suggestions to make changes that existed originally. Member Rose commented on concerns with the renovations and the historic designation. She then stated that the outer railing on the rear porch needed to be removed for a stage appearance, that the porch on the north side should be a wraparound porch, and that she would like to see the north elevations. Mr. Price stated that no changes were slated for the north side, therefore there was no elevation. Member Rose questioned the attic space. Mr. Fitzgibbon stated nothing was scheduled for the attic space. Member Stroup stated that historic designations need to remain and should not be compromised. Director Elliott-Moore stated that the Secretary of Interior would be involved and went on to explain the process. Mr. Stephen Withers commented on the bathroom ideas, railings, flat roof, front steps at the front door, and 5V quality roof. Ms. Donna Steele commented on concerns regarding losing the building's historic designation, and also regarding grants / hidden strings on grants/donations. Manager Smith stated that discussion with Healthy West Orange has not taken place.

Manager Smith thanked everyone for their input. He stated the next meeting on the issues will be August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm and will be virtual.

#### 3. ADJOURN:

The Public session adjourned at 6:35pm.

  
Dorothy Burkhalter, Town Clerk

  
Jim O'Brien, Mayor