

To the Selectboard:

One year from now the building that currently houses the Police Department will be empty. We believe the building has value as a commercial property and as an important element of the town's historic character, and we're asking the Selectboard for its support as we pursue options to preserve the building.

Preserving the building benefits the town in several ways:

- It saves the town the cost of tearing it down, and will instead bring in money;
- It places the property back on the tax rolls;
- It sets an example for preserving our heritage in the form of older structures;
- The scale and historic nature of the current building provide a friendly, welcoming gateway to the center of town;
- Renovating something that we already have and incorporating it into something that we need symbolizes the Hinesburg community in a profound way. Treating our buildings as a renewable (rather than a disposable) resource makes a powerful statement about Hinesburg's identity and its future.

Specifically, we propose: to have a realtor(s) do an appraisal of the property, to draft legal language stipulating what may or may not be done with the property and how it should be maintained, to explore options for parking, and to look into obtaining subdivision approval for the building and a small lot.

We'll follow up with the Selectboard by early fall with our results and to move forward with the plan.

Sincerely,  
George Dameron  
Leonard Duffy  
Catherine Goldsmith  
Maggie Gordon  
Rolf Kielman  
Roger Kohn