

To: The Tinmouth Select Board

From: Holly Ross, Chair of the American Rescue Plan Act Committee

Dear Members of the Select Board,

Our committee met four times over the summer to consider how best to spend the \$175,000 given to the town from ARPA. (\$2,000 has already been spent.) Ideas that were put forth by the town people at the special town meeting in May, from the Select Board, and sent in to our committee by town people were considered. Members of the committee volunteered to research different projects:

Ash tree removal and other dead trees in town right of way: Gregg Casey

Fire Department – equipment and fire house upgrades: Sherry Johnson

Recreation: Chuck Bronk and Martha Stanley

Old Creamery: Michael Fallar

MREs & Salt/Sand purchase: Holly Ross

Theresa Butts later came up with some ideas of her own

Narratives were written by each and we are forwarding them to you – as is. The committee early on came to the decision that it would be next to impossible to choose one (or more projects) over another, so we are placing the ball back in your court.

One thing we were in agreement on is suggesting to the Board to put \$25,000 aside in a contingency fund, should a need arise that we have not considered at this point in time.

Another thing which we approved was suggesting to the Board that they put the expenditures before the voters of Tinmouth to decide. This has been or will be the practice of several towns in the state (as reported by Vermont Public).

Just for the fun of it, I personally came up with how I would spend the money, if the decision were solely mine. I dare say each and every person in town would come up with a different allocation.

In short, I wish the Board all the best as they consider this every important task. If you need further information or research, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Holly S. Ross

Chair of Tinmouth's ARPA Committee

ARPA Proposal

Dangerous Dead Roadside Tree Removal

Ash Tree Removal

This proposal is being presented by Gregg Casey, Committee Member with input from Eric Buffum, Road Commissioner and David Birdsall, Tree Warden.

The scope of work is twofold. Removal of dangerous dead and dying trees along our paved roads in Tinmouth. (Route 140, East Road and Mountain View Rd.)

To assist the road crew by purchasing a flail forestry mowing head for the sum of **\$25,000**. Hiring a high reach tree cutting machine rental by the hour.

\$20,000 2022-2023

\$20,000 2023-2024

1. The paved roads were chosen based on the amount of traffic, cyclists, and pedestrians.
2. This would open areas of the road and help prolong the life of the asphalt by allowing the surface to dry.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregg J. Casey

Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department

The Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department provides First Responder services to the Town of Tinmouth. The department has been effected negatively by the pandemic. The only fundraising activity sponsored by the fire department, the Game Supper, has been cancelled due to the crowded indoor venue. Additionally, the department has incurred additional expenses for PPE.

- Description of the spending request-what will the money be used for?

The Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department provides first responder services to the Town of Tinmouth. These services include, but are not limited to, responses to fires, accidents, emergency medical requests. In addition, the department responds to calls of animals in distress and other community needs. It should be noted during COVID, the department responded to all calls for help, even though at times, the department did not have the proper PPE available.

1. SCBA gear for fire fighters to respond safely to interior fires. We have 10 sets of equipment. These are all going to expire at the same time. We would like to buy 2 sets a year \$7,000 per set for 3 years. The department needs 4 sets so that two firefighters can enter a burning structure and there are two sets in reserve for the rescue team.

TOTAL $\$14,000 \times 3 = 42,000$

2. An evaluation of the structural integrity of the current fire house. When the department discussed proposal #5 at the last Fire Department meeting, one of the firefighters recalled something about the integrity of our roof might be effected by changing the insulation. Research has been unable to find documentation that supports or refutes this. It will cost

TVFD
10/5

about \$2000 to hire a structural engineer to determine if the building's design can support a reduction in heat loss by adding additional insulation.

TOTAL \$2,000

3. Electrical work so that each truck is on its own circuit. Several years ago, the fire house suffered a lightning strike. Half of our trucks are plugged into one circuit. The lightning strike disabled the circuit, and all of the electronics on the trucks ran down the batteries. Those trucks needed to be jump started. We are having trouble getting an estimate but hope to have one for our next meeting. We have a rough estimate of \$2,500.

TOTAL \$2,500

4. Flammable Cabinet to store gas and other flammable liquids that are needed for normal fire department operations. The Department tried to apply for a fully funded PACIF grant to cover the cost of a vapor proof storage cabinet for the flammable liquids stored in the fire house. The grant required a quote. Due to supply chain problems, these were not in stock so a quote could not be obtained. When a quote was obtained, the grant money had been allocated. The department intends to apply again in 2023, however the match may not be 100%

TOTAL \$1,400

5. Insulating the roof of the fire house to reduce heating costs. It costs about \$2,600 per year to heat the firehouse. We have investigated the current insulation and found we have between 4 inches and 0 inches of insulation. We have received an estimate of \$40,000 to

insulate the roof. The firefighters will remove the old insulation. More details will need to be flushed out.

Gail has indicated a grant may be available to support this request. The Fire Department will work with Gail to apply for this grant if it becomes available.

TOTAL \$40,000

- Amount requested/proposed to be allocated to this idea?

Total for all three projects \$87,900

- Are other funds/grants available to enhance the Town's investment?

The Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department is committed to maintain the equipment purchased through this grant. We have money to maintain this new equipment. We are hoping these larger projects can be funded, so that we can maintain our equipment, and replace routine items.

The Department has aggressively pursued grants, and will continue to do so to multiply the effects of the financial investment.

- It should be noted the department has had been affected negatively by COVID 19. The annual Game Supper has been cancelled for 2 years. Not only has this reduced fundraising, but there has not been a 50/50 raffle or gun raffle. In addition, the department has had to absorb the costs of PPE for the fire fighters. This includes disinfectant, hand sanitizer, masks, check valve face masks, check valve bags, biohazard suits, and infectious bio-hazard disposal bags.

T VFD
3 of 5

- The reduced income and increased expenses are documented below.

TVFD Financial Year ending	INCOME	Game Supper (GS) Chicken & Biscuit (CB)	50/50	Gun Raffle	EXPENSE S	PPE/Bio- Hazard/ Etc.
2019	GS	6,800	337	2,870		
2020	GS	7,790	254	2,560		216
2021	CB	3,207	0	0		
2022	CB	4,087	0	0		66

- What will this investment provide to the people of the Town of Tinmouth? How many will benefit?

Everyone will benefit in town will benefit from a fire department that is better equipped to handle emergencies. As was mentioned previously, our fund raising abilities have been severely reduced

- Are there any ongoing costs to this investment to the Town after the initial investment?

Fire Department will be responsible for maintaining the equipment purchased. We hope we will be able to restart our fundraising efforts.

- Who will implement the funding request?

Kevin Eaton and Sherry Johnson will implement this request.

TVFD
4 of 5

- Three good reasons why this idea should be funded
 1. Our department is staffed by volunteers who deserve the best equipment to help others and protect themselves.
 2. Providing money for these projects will reduce expenses to the department and allow the department to spend time on training instead of fundraising.
 3. The department responds to calls from our community both for emergency requests and requests to support members of our community in need.
- Concerns about funding this idea

We realize this list of projects is ambitious. If all these ideas are funded, we should be able to devote more time to training and support.

- Rank all ideas from top choice to last choice (number each one from most highly recommended, to lowest recommendation)
 1. SCBA gear for fire fighters to respond safely to interior fires.
 2. Evaluation by a civil engineer to assess the structural integrity of the building.
 3. A cabinet to contain the flammable liquids that are stored in the firehouse.
 4. Electrical work so that each truck is on its own circuit.
 5. Insulating the fire house to reduce heating costs.

TVFD
SAS

Narrative as to how the ARPA funds could be used for recreation in Tinmouth

Recreation
8/29/22

We have a one time opportunity to create a lasting, accessible, multi-generational recreation spot in our town. It would not take a lot of ARPA money to accomplish a few goals, the "low hanging fruit" then build momentum over-time. The Town owns the property, and our Conservation Commission has an on going commitment to foster development of this property.

We recommend forming a Recreation Committee to shoulder some responsibility for planning, orchestration, and seeking grant opportunities to work in tandem with the Conservation Commission.

It is very easy for residents in small communities to be socially isolated due to distances and lack of recreational opportunities that can be enjoyed by many. A site that includes a number of diverse activities, including passive recreation can become a comfortable place everyone.

We do have walking trails, and the community center for volleyball, pickleball and basketball. We have a wonderful playground for the littles, we have walking trails and places to swim in short driving distance. We can agree that we do not have great multi-generational recreational space. We do not have a space where young families can walk and bike without cars going by, or a place where pre-teens and teens could gather to play volleyball, corn hole or skate board. A place where people can meet to picnic and socialize.

A stage area could be easily added. Think what the Tinmouth Mountain School could do with this space. One of the many things we learned during Covid is how important outdoor space is to our day-to-day health, both physical and mental.

The attached spreadsheet is organized in order of easiest to attain to more difficult, and thus the least expensive to the most expensive. Great consideration has been given to all of the suggestions provided, but a tennis/pickleball court, swimming area, basketball court, ice hockey arena, and shuffleboard court are not doable within the scope of the initial project due to lack of funds and the difficult nature of the site for achieving flat spaces. In addition to extensive and costly excavation required for activities that need a flat surface, adding concrete and fencing exceeds any potential funds that may be able to be used. There is also a lack of water and ability to acquire it on site, which would preclude public swimming and garden plots. This is not to say that these goals could never be attained, but that they cannot reasonably move forward with the funds that may be available. Even with grants in hand for individual projects, since recreation is funded by at least two State agencies, the initial grading work proves daunting without sufficient funding. For that reason, activities that would not require extensive earth moving are given higher consideration for what could be called, Phase I of the Tinmouth Recreation Area. The total requested from ARPA funds for this portion is \$31,420.00. Phase 2 and additional uses could be funded by application to State funding agencies, typically with a 50% match

In conclusion, this space could be relatively inexpensively converted into a multi-use area that would provide real benefit to the residents of the town and the nearby school.

Recreation
10/3

ARPA funding for Recreation - Planning										8/28/2022
#	Phase	Use/sport (Ranked easiest to hardest)	Court dimensions	Space required/ Acres	Approximate Cost	Number Participants	Infrastructure needs	Maintenance	Constructor	Flat/Topo
1	1	Picnic Tables(6)	48'X54'	0.060	\$ 720.00	36	none	Weed control/mowing	Purchase	Flat
2	1	Frisbe golf (9 holes)	Irreg	3.000	-	8	Tees and goals Corn hole sets/Equipment Storage	Mowing/trail clearing	D.Fontein & Volunteers	Topo
3	1	Corn Hole	10'X45'	0.010	\$ 200.00	4		Weed control/mowing	Purchase	Flat
4	1	Trails through the Woods	Irreg	2.000	\$ 500.00	12	Blazing	Mowing/trail clearing	Volunteers/ TCC	Topo
5	1	Fruit Tree Planting(12)	60'X120'	0.165	\$ 1,000.00	10	Caging and wraps/deterrent to herbivory	Weed/water	Volunteers	Topo
6	1	Horseshoes/Two courts	12'X48'	0.013	\$ 1,000.00	4	Store equipment- level courts	Weed control	Rec. Committee	Flat
7	1	Outdoor Stage/Hillside seating	80'X120'	0.220	\$ 5,000.00	75	Stage construction	Mowing	Volunteers	Topo
8	1	Skate board ramp	50'X150'	0.172	\$ 8,000.00	6	Concrete Pad	Weather protection	Contractors	Flat
9	1	Volley Ball on sand	29.5'X59'	0.040	\$ 15,000.00	8	Net/Standards	Weed control	Contractors	Flat
10	2	Tennis Court/2 Pickleball Courts	60'X120'	0.165	\$ 65,000.00	8	Fencing/Surface	Repaint lines- pressure wash	Contractors	Flat
11	2	Basketball Court	50'X94'	0.107	\$ 80,000.00	12	Backboards/nets/Su rface	Repaint lines- pressure wash	Contractors	Flat
			Sum Phase 1	5.680	\$ 31,420.00	157				

Recreation
2 of 3

**Tinmouth Conservation Commission letter of support
for ARPA budget to fund recreational development on Town lot**

The Tinmouth Conservation Commission supports the allocation of ARPA funding to go towards recreational development on the Tinmouth Town lot southwest of the Town garage.

Investing in outdoor recreation is investing in our community. With thoughtful planning the town lot could be designed to serve our youngest to our oldest community members. It's location and development would create a space for: families to go after school or on the weekends, trails that are accessible and safe for our elderly and activities that would encourage community connection. This would foster many of Tinmouth's core values like the stewardship and engagement with the land and the connection and participation of the community. The success of any Town has to do with the resources it makes available to its residents. Tinmouth has a long history of coming together and creating many beneficial resources like the community center, the playground, the school garden, the old firehouse, the pizza oven and much more. The Conservation Commission believes it is time and is ready to help create the resource of an outdoor recreational area that would serve the community for many generations to come. We ask that as the ARPA committee and the Select Board look at where to invest the ARPA money that they highly consider the long lasting value of outdoor recreation and the broad range of benefits it would bring to the town including:

- Community engagement
- Attracting new community members, including young families
- A resource for the school to utilize
- A gathering place for kids and families to meet and play
- Educational opportunities
- Health benefits of outdoor recreation
- Stewardship and revitalization of our town land
- An investment that will serve current and future generations

Thank you for considering, sincerely

-Rainbow Squier, on behalf of the Tinmouth Conservation Commission

Rainbow Squier
3 of 3

Old Creamery ARPA Proposal

8/29/2022

The Old Creamery Committee humbly requests consideration for financial support for its ongoing restoration of this important historical piece of Tinmouth Center.

Over the years, the Old Creamery Committee and the Tinmouth Historical and Genealogical Society has raised \$36,973, of which only \$4,400 was tax payer dollars, for restoration projects that included stabilizing the building, working on three foundation walls, replacing the roof, removing and replacing the porch, and painting the north and west walls, to name a few. Many, many hours of volunteer time and energy were donated as well.

There is a current balance of \$5,950 in the Old Creamery account, which will be spent this summer on painting the east wall, running an electrical line to a sub-panel, and purchasing claps and paint for the south wall.

This ARPA request is for a ramp/deck on the north side to provide access to a storage room to be created inside to enable folks using the bake oven to store their equipment, for the Conservation Commission to store its amphibian crossing signs and equipment, and perhaps some historical items that should not be left in the old town sheds. The storage room will require repair of the ceiling where there was once a fire, building a wall to section off the other half of the building, encapsulating lead paint, an outlet or two and lights, repair to windows and doors, etc. Current estimates are \$10,000 + (lead abatement is an unknown cost at the moment), with work being done next construction season.

Possible uses are still being discussed, but as there is no heat, lights or plumbing, it will be seasonal for quite some time. The porch is used now for numerous activities, including meetings, pizza parties, and musical events. Display of THGS artifacts would be one possible future use.

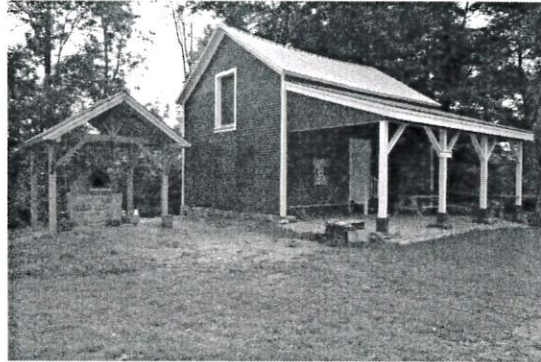
The Old Creamery Committee would also like to request the Select Board to consider this a town building in need of maintenance as such, and have a line added to the town's annual budget to help with the ongoing restoration.

old creamery
1 of 4

Creamery Progress



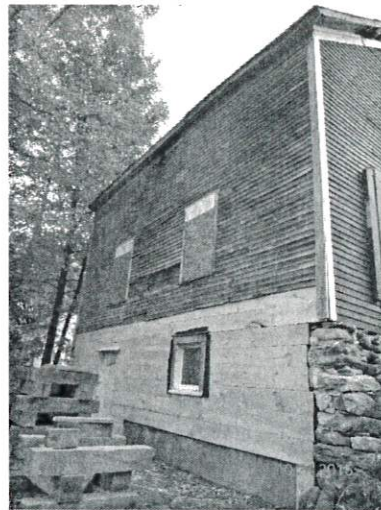
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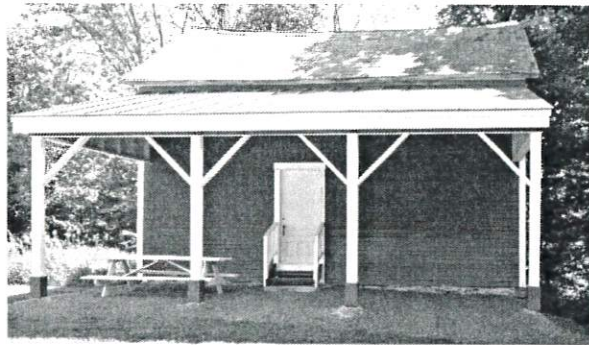
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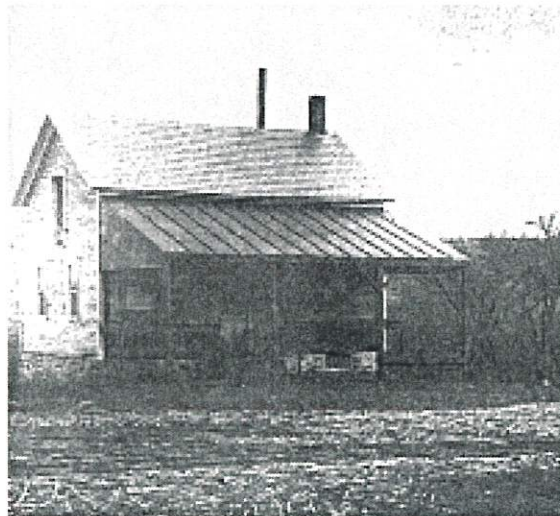
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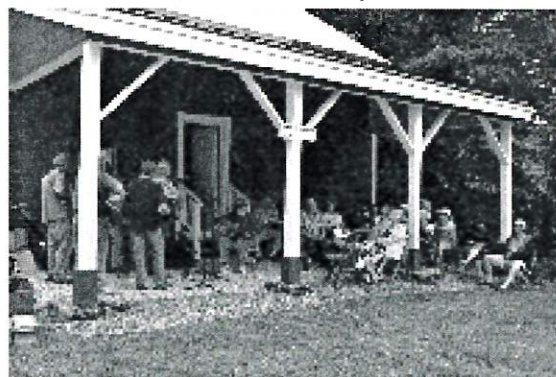
what was



what could have been



what makes creamery worth fixing!



Old Creamery
3014

Vito Macaluso

638 East Road

Tinmouth VT

6/24/2022

To Whom it may Concern,

I have been a member of the Old Creamery Committee since its inception many years ago, and as a member of the Tinmouth Historical & Genealogical Society I learned quite a few facts about this humble wooden structure in the historic town center of Tinmouth. This building's importance as a commercial center where the many small dairy farms operating in Tinmouth in the early 1900's, brought their milk to be sold and shipped, made this structure very significant in allowing Tinmouth to maintain its agrarian rural farm driven economy.

Over the last several years, using donated funds, volunteer labor, and local crafts people, we have stabilized the structure, and made it usable for events that could be held under its replica of the original front porch. We have also cleaned out space inside, where eventually, with help in funding, we will be able to store items we use with the pizza oven next door, and perhaps other items as the space allows.

At our last Creamery Committee meeting, we outlined future plans for this historic structure, which included, re-siding the south side, painting east and south sides, adding electric access in a new storage area, and replacing windows where needed; and as a group we have agreed that as one of only a few remaining historic town owned structures, located in our town center, and with many possible uses, we should invest in this structure to preserve the history of this community that was built by dairy farming.

Old Creamery
7 of 4

Project: Salt/Sand purchase (suggested by member of the community on July 20, 2022)

Cost: \$80,000

Season 2022 - 2023	\$20,000
Season 2023 – 2024	\$20,000
Season 2024 – 2025	\$20,000
Season 2025 – 2026	\$20,000

Location: Salt/Sand shed

This proposal would meet the following qualifications outlined by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns:

1. “Prioritize Good Governance” – by reducing taxes levied for our roads
2. “Invest in Best Uses for Long-term Recovery” by keeping our roads safe and passable in foul weather.
“In these days of increasing inflation, this use would help reduce our tax burden on Tinmouth folks.”
3. If the cost of sand and/or salt increases in the next five years, this funding would provide a basic support on which further allocations of funds from the taxpayers could be built
4. Everyone in the town (and those traveling through our town) would benefit from this expenditure.

Other
1 of 2

Project: MREs (Meals Ready to Eat)

Cost: \$4,000 for 1440 breakfast meals and 1440 dinner meals (in 24 buckets)

available through Amazon from Wise Company Long Term Emergency Food Supply

Location: Store in Town Office

Suggestion came from a member of the community... recommending that the town be better prepared for emergencies – particularly in the area of feeding people in time of catastrophic crisis.

1. By purchasing MREs, there would be a guaranteed source of food for town people for several days, should a catastrophe occur. The shelf life of these MREs is 25 years!
2. By having a central source of food, those affected in time of crisis would know where to go for food.
3. MREs are just that – ready to eat. They require no additional preparation or cooking.

In addition to food, we might want to think of adding bottled water to our back-up resources...

Other 2012

IDEA	BASE COST	COST
(28) Apple Orchard	\$90-100.00/ 4-5 Ft or \$50/1-3' Apple tree	28x\$100= \$2,800.00 not planted
Tree Lottery	\$69/50 seedlings; several non-fruit varieties (ArborDay.org)	(2) trees/household (400)= \$1104.00
Fuel Lottery	Propane 2.76/g, Oil 2.62/g, Pellet 325/ton, Wood 275/cord	400pp/(x)\$300= \$130K
Electric Bike Lottery/Loaner	\$2000.00/Bike (Loaner program-signout @ office? -Woodstock-)	25 @ \$50K
Tandem Bicycle(s)	4-Person-Cycle \$4625.00; 2-Person \$500.00+	XXXXX
Solar Panel Lottery	\$15,000.00/ 5 KW system- installed	10 @ \$150K

Theresa Butts
1 of 1

Theresa Butts

8-29-2022

For ARPA Committee Consideration

From Gail Fallar, Select Board Assistant/Town Clerk/Treasurer

- Hold back a certain amount in case a really interesting idea/project comes along in a few months, or there is a cost overrun that really needs to be filled. 20%?
- The Select Board asked that this be submitted to this committee regarding cyber security. It is a proposal from Zach Bronzo, who lives at the lake and manages websites for 200 or 300 financial institutions. Please see below.
- On-demand generator for the town office. It is the emergency command center in times of severe weather or disaster of some sort. I am still waiting for estimates from 3 electrical companies. I spoke with Ray Pratt, TVFD, about the generator switch and he felt the on-demand would be a better option than relying on the fire department to be able to drag a generator over to the town office and plug it into the switch. The Select Board has not yet weighed in on this proposal – waiting for estimates as well. The Town of Pittsfield recently had one that cost just under \$25,000.

Cyber Security/IT Proposal

Gail,

Thank you for meeting with me today, we discussed at length the benefits of the devices listed and the ability to manage them easily. I certainly didn't want to suggest hardware and devices that only specialized people would be able to administer, therefore my main suggestion is both Ubiquiti and Synology products. These two companies offer products that have an easy to navigate and manage user interface that almost anyone can pick up and figure out. Expandability was also on my mind if in the future you needed more hard drive space, or more wifi access points, cameras, then you can certainly easily add that to both.

I do think it would be fair for me to get paid for my time however I also want it to be known that I also want to donate some of my time as well as I don't want this to be a large town expense. I hope that is ok and understandable. I added an approximate time to install and configure.

Line 2 - Unifi Dream Machine Pro - Router/Firewall/VPN all in one unit, extremely Robust, one cost, Easily expandable. Built in Firewall to protect from outside intruders, able to break networks into segments to protect critical data. VPN built in to remotely connect to the office network and work from home if needed. Capable of expansion with cameras or more wireless APs (Wifi).

Line 3 - Synology Distation NAS- Local file server for storage of all data. To be used as a backup drive as well for office computers. NEMRC software. This device provides approx 24tb of data storage, plenty more than the town needs currently but flexible enough for future needs. Device is designed so that if one hard drive were to fail, no data is lost and a replacement drive can be inserted and the device is fully functional. While the drive is "lost", the device is still usable, just at a reduced capacity. No data will be stored locally on computer. This ensures that if a computer crashes, or something happens to the computer it can easily be replaced without worry of data it contained.

SBA
1 of 2

Line 4 - Seagate 8TB NAS hard drives - these are the four drives for the Synology diskstation that provide the data storage. These are special drives meant for the high volume and usage that a NAS (Network Attached Storage) requires.

Line 5 - Ubiquiti Unifi 6 Lite - This is a Wireless AP (Access Point) that will provide wireless access to the town hall and a guest network. These are easily managed with the Unifi Dream Machine Pro. Two of these, one for the front and if there is wiring, one for the back.

Line 6 - Ubiquiti Networks 24v PoE - These provide power for the Unifi 6 Lite. These types of devices require injected power rather than a standard power cord. The device puts power thru the network line, so if you had to run a line to the device you only have to run one line rather than two. Need one for each of the Unifi 6 lites.

Line 7 - CyberPower CP1000 - Battery backup. If power is lost the machines will not suddenly shut off if properly attached to this unit. These newer units also can control a computer or NAS via USB and will tell the attached computer/NAS that power has been lost and to start to shutdown. This protects against sudden power outages, surges and minor disruptions. I am suggesting three as there are two computers and one NAS. Can probably get away with two but being able to have each one control a separate device is ultimately safest.

If there are any questions or concerns please feel free to ask.

Thank you

Zach

860-806-0991

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total
Ubiquiti Networks Unifi Dream Machine Pro	\$379.00	1	\$379.00
Synology Diskstation DS920+ 4bay 4GB	\$549.99	1	\$549.99
Seagate 8tb IronWolf 7200 SATAIII 3.5 Internal NAS	\$184	4	\$736
Ubiquiti Networks Unifi 6 Lite AX1500	\$129.99	2	\$129.99
Ubiquiti Networks 24V PoE Adapter with Gigabit LAN Port	\$14.99	2	\$29.98
CyberPower CP1000PFCLCD PFC Sinewave UPS System	\$164.95	3	\$494.85
	\$1,422.92		\$2,319.81
 Zach Bronzo's Time	 \$50	 5	 \$250

2320
250
2570
\$ 25
SBA
zaf2