

Subj: Reference 2015 Warrant Article 16: Brick Town (Hall fire doors)
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From: RUNNER793@aol.com
To: deanl@myfairpoint.net, bob.devilleuneuve@gmail.com, rclepage@limerickme.org,
CEO04048@roadrunner.com, treasurer04048@roadrunner.com,
townclerk04048@roadrunner.com, adminassoc04048@roadrunner.com, m10mclean@gmail.com
CC: laguna2nh@yahoo.com, grigg_sj@yahoo.com, bentons@roadrunner.com, runner793@aol.com,
stephanie.bishop@fairpoint.com, kimpaintpics@gmail.com, wthorne@roadrunner.com,
wthorne@semifcu.org, samclean@s-a-mclean.com, dlafrenier21@gmail.com,
jamessmclean@gmail.com

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Greetings to all whom receive this,

Purpose: The purpose of this e-mail is to give an overview of research I have performed (1/16/15) based on Article 16 and the Brick Town Hall (fire doors) that requires to be fire rated as per The State of Maine Fire Marshall. I stated at the Budget Committee Meeting I would do some research below is information I found out.

With guidance I requested from James Mclean, "Fire Science Engineer", he pointed me in the direction to look at the International Existing Code. Below are links to the references in case anyone feels inclined to read them. Below are somewhat simple layman's terminology explanations of vast comprehensive technical issues. (short version condensed).

Bottom Line up front: Based on the IEC 2009 with wood doors there are only 3 examples where the 60 minute fire rating could be achieved (2-5/8" Quebec Pine, 2-5/8" Teak or 2-5/8" Oak) as per Life Safety Requirement by The State of Maine Fire Marshall & Code.

Technical stuff: Wood doors require analysis of "Flame Spread; Smoke Production & Degree of Combustibility".

In Chapter 3 of the IEC 2009, it stipulates sprinklers & alarm systems to slow down fires as well as an example of a wall that is less fire rated than the door but in my opinion, I do not think the Fire Marshall is taking this into consideration.

Therefore, unless there are "compelling" reasons to hire an engineering firm to certify the solid wood doors in my opinion, I feel this may be a waste of money. Also there most likely will be an issue of a firm certifying doors that are of old age as it then becomes a liability issue for the Engineering Firm. Thus bringing me to the second point. The verbal price given by the Selectmen Chair at the 12/18/14 Budget Committee meeting of \$13,000 to upgrade the doors in question to 60 minute Fire Rated Doors as required by the State of Maine Fire Marshall, in my opinion the amount seems excessive and bids from reputable companies need to be advertised. Obviously there needs to be a comprehensive bid sheet put together so all companies are bidding on the same specs to get a fair competitive price.

With all of the above being said I understand the Selectmen will put a figure on the fire doors at the brick town hall but we all need to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars as we are all taxpayers too.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Michael Welsh
 Secretary, Town of Limerick Budget Committee

Reference: International Existing Code (2009 Seventh Printing)

http://publicecodes.cyberregs.com/icod/iebc/2009/icod_iebc_2009_resa_sec001.htm
 Resource A-Guidelines on Fire Ratings of Archaic Materials & Assemblies

http://publicecodes.cyberregs.com/icod/iebc/2009/icod_iebc_2009_resaapp_sec005.htm
 SECTION V—DOORS

CF:
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