



Community Preservation Fund-Historic Resources-Preservation of Steele Farm House

ARTICLE 43

Summary

The Steele Farm Advisory Committee is seeking \$310,000 from the already existing Community Preservation funds to repair and weatherproof the exterior of the historic 239 year old Levi Weatherbee/Steele Farm house

Costs

Estimated total of \$310,000


- The total amount will come from the Community Preservation Fund which has already been collected in the previous year
- There is currently enough money, with some leftover, in the Community Preservation Fund to finance this warrant and the other Community Preservation warrants.

Issues

At some point soon, the damage caused by the weather getting in will cause irreparable damage and multiply the eventual repair costs.

- The 40+ year old roof is leaking badly and needs to be replaced.
- The siding clapboard are aged, cracked, and decaying.
- The window frames are rotted and window panes are starting to fall out

According to the architectural study in 2016, which the town commissioned, the root cause of deterioration is lack of maintenance and the exterior has been in place decades past their lifecycle.



Benefits

The 239 year old Levi Weatherbee/Steele farmhouse is currently structurally sound but the exterior is rapidly deteriorating.

By upgrading the exterior (roof, siding, windows) the farmhouse will be weathertight and the process of deterioration will be stopped.



Attic - Showing gaps in the siding



Attic - Showing gaps around the chimney



Window panes starting to fall out



Clapboards showing decay

Vote Yes

- The Levi Wetherbee/Steele Farmhouse has been a part of Boxborough for 239 years and is at risk of not being around longer.
 - The funds are already available
 - This is the only building on the National Register of Historic Places in Boxborough; let's preserve it for future generations.
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