

October 29, 2023

To: Community Preservation Committee  
From: Real Estate & Open Space Committee (Town of Harwich)  
Re: 2023-24 CPA Funding Application from the Harwich Fire Association

Project Title and Request: Old Bank Street Firehouse Housing  
850K for creation of 3 Affordable Housing Rate  
Rental Units

The Harwich Fire Association with community and CPA funding have started the process of rehabbing and restoring the exterior of the Old Bank Street Firehouse. With the release of 350K in CPA funds this past July they have taken this public eyesore and are on their way to reviving the historic flavor of the Old Firehouse with plans to house the old 1928 FireTruck and create a unique museum and tourist destination for the Town of Harwich. They hope to eventually finish the first floor interior to offer meeting and event space. Their hope regarding the second floor is to help ease the current housing crisis by building and supporting three Affordable Rate housing rental units. In addition to CPA support they are seeking funding from the Harwich Affordable Housing Trust.

The REOS purpose and mission is to study and make recommendations to Harwich elected officials and voters regarding the protection, acquisition, use and management of land for public purposes - this includes Affordable Housing. Adding rental units at affordable rates supports this and is so important to making Harwich a community where all can live and support one another.

The REOS committee is pleased to support this request.

Sincerely, Elaine Shovlin, Chair



Kathy Green, Vice-Chair

