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**From:** Smith, Robert (DOS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 18, 2010 3:48 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@hudson.org  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Meeting of 2/16/10

Bruce,

Thank you for inviting me to meet with you regarding the DPW garage on the banks of the Hudson River.

Part 441 of Title 9 was adopted in December of 1983 and became effective on January 1, 1984; this same provision was moved to Part 1201 which I e-mailed you last week. In summary it places the responsibility of the enforcement of the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code for "buildings, premises and equipment in the custody of, or activities related thereto undertaken by, any special purpose unit of local government created by or for the benefit of the respective city, village, town or county" to that city, village, town or county. That being stated, the documentation you provided for my review is insufficient to determine compliance and should not have been accepted by the Village. To compound the situation further, it is apparent that the building was constructed within the flood plain on soils that are unstable.

My primary concerns include, but are not limited to the following:

- 1) A "spreader footing" was provided for a "concentrated load" building design on unstable soils.
- 2) How are the posts attached to the footings and are they of the correct material to be buried and/or in direct contact with concrete?
- 3) Photographs indicate that the top "beam" consists of nominal lumber attached to each side of the posts with bolts. Are these of sufficient size and quantity to resist shear by both uplift and the combined live and dead load?
- 4) Are the roof trusses attached to the beam correctly, are the trusses certified and have they been braced in accordance with the manufacturers specifications? No documents were available to confirm this.
- 5) It is obvious that some "settling" has occurred, evidenced by the gap between the ceiling and the walls in the conference room. What is the cause of this settling?
- 6) Handicap Accessibility has been required in public buildings since the 1980's, I am confident that the "platform lift" provided does not meet the requirements of the code at the time this building was constructed.
- 7) No record exists that the electrical wiring was inspected and approved.

I recommend that the Village hire a licensed design professional to perform a full structural analysis of the building and certify that it is compliant with the requirements of the Uniform Code in effect at the time the building was constructed. In addition, I believe it would be in the best interest of the Village to remove any vital records which are kept in the building and relocate employees to an alternate location. While I do not believe the building is in "imminent danger" of collapse, a building cannot be occupied without a Certificate of Occupancy; one has not and should not be issued until the required documentation is provided.

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

2/19/2010