

The new proposed Town Hall expansion design, viewed here from Mary Street, features more stone and arches and less glass.

Town Hall expansion

Citizens seem happier with revised designs

By STEPHANIE THIESSEN

The Champion

Both relief and caution were expressed after new proposed plans for the Town Hall expansion were unveiled at a packed public meeting Wednesday.

The general consensus from attendees expressed during the night's question and answer session was that they were pleasantly surprised by the building's softened appearance.

More stone, more arches and less glass was what architect The Ventin Group came up with after being sent back to the drawing board in November by a generally unsatisfied public who said the proposal was too modern-looking.

"We've created more of a blend of old and modern," said Paul Sapounzi of The Ventin Group.

The new proposed plans for the \$19.6 million, 50,000-square-foot expansion reveal a smaller-scale two-storey addition

connected to the existing town hall with a glass link.

Creating a visual separation between the link and the new addition is a stone wall that rises five feet higher than the rest of the building.

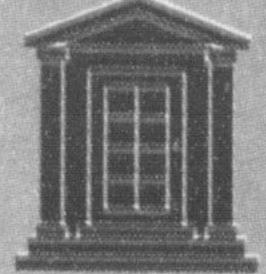
"I have to commend you," Milton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sandy Martin told Mr. Sapounzi. "I think you've listened to our comments. This is a really beautiful rendition of what this building could look like."

Lifetime Miltonian Mirella Marshall, past president of the Milton Historical Society, echoed her sentiments. "I have to say I'm very pleasantly pleased with what you've come up with. I like the fact you've softened it a bit, and the windows look more appealing," she said.

In his presentation, Mr. Sapounzi outlined some of the input given at the last meeting, saying people wanted more land-

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