



Town of Ayer

Historical Commission

Town Hall ♦ One Main Street ♦ Ayer, MA 01432 ♦ 978-772-8220 ♦ histcom@ayer.ma.us

September 13, 2022

Ayer Town Hall
Attn: Janet Providakes, Chair – Ayer Community Preservation Committee (CPC)
One Main Street
Ayer, MA 01432

Re: Letter of Support to Town of Ayer Community Preservation Committee to fund the Restoration/Preservation of the (1943) Historic Ayer Howitzer at Ayer Town Hall

Ms. Providakes,

On behalf of the Ayer Historical Commission, I am writing to express our support for the application by the Town of Ayer seeking local Community Preservation Act support to fund the restoration, renovation, and preservation of the (1943) 105MM M3 Howitzer, which serves as a historic memorial to Staff Sergeant Leon A. Cote (1919-1944) and all Ayer residents that served in the United States Military through the generations.

The proposed heritage restoration/preservation project includes the design and construction of a new concrete and granite-block base pad, which will serve to preserve the restored Howitzer for generations to come.

Finally, the original (1985) commemorative bronze plaque to Staff Sergeant Cote & All Ayer Military affixed to the original granite monument block will be properly placed to stand with the restored Howitzer and new base pad structure on the front grounds of Historic Ayer Town Hall.

It is important to preserve as many of these small, but visible clues to the story of Ayer as possible. They remind us of our past and who we are, and they spark an interest in learning about those parts of our history for which there are no visible remnants.

Sincerely,
Ayer Historical Commission

George Bacon, Chair