

Dear Waterboro residents and landowners,

February 17, 2020

In January of 2018, the Waterboro Board of Selectmen formed an ad-hoc Steering Committee to look into costs, feasibility and community interest in possibly building a new Waterboro Community Center. The Committee has been meeting regularly as well as visiting existing Community Center facilities in southern and central Maine towns in order to gain as much information as possible. The Steering Committee is now at the stage of looking for locations for this potential Community Center which would include:

- A library
- A proper election polling space with adequate parking
- A full service emergency shelter
- Enough gym space for two basketball courts along with Recreation offices and program spaces
- An elevated indoor walking track
- A large multi-purpose dining/function room including a commercial kitchen large enough to support community suppers for at least 150 people.

In 2019, voters approved \$25,000 to obtain preliminary architectural drawings so the public could see the size, scope and approximate costs for such a facility. The architectural firm of Scott Simons won the bid for this work and draft designs are in process. On the evening of March 23, 2020 the Steering Committee is inviting citizens to the first public meeting to show our architect's concept ideas, gather comments and answer questions. This meeting will start at 6:30pm and be in Massabesic East which is the former Junior High building next to our High School.

The Committee is currently in search of possible land for such a Community Center. They are looking for at least 10 buildable acres of reasonably well drained land either abutting or not far from Route 5 or 202. Please know the Committee has no funding to buy land at this time, but instead they are looking for land donations or potential acquisition ideas. This is an expensive project and the Committee understands that a major fundraising effort will be required. Taxpayer dollars should not fund the entire construction project if approved by voters. If you have questions or know of land that might be available for such a project, please contact Town Administrator Gary Lamb at 207-247-6166, ext 100, or any member of our Steering Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Waterboro Community Center Steering Committee members (Chairman Tanya Hazard, Todd Smith, Craig Richardson, Gordon Littlefield, Julie Hoyle, Rosemary Whittaker and Kellie DeMers)