



Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dover Community Center Building Project: Special Votes held June 3rd and 12th

DOVER – The Board of Selectmen and the Dover Community Center Building Committee wish to share the following information about the proposed Community Center Building Project in advance of two important votes in June.

The Town of Dover has been working since 2019 on a plan to meet the needs of a growing, multi-generational community and to create a new focal point of town life. Following a comprehensive review of options, the Community Center Building Committee pursued a plan to renovate and expand the 1910 Building in keeping with the traditional design of Town Hall and the Dover Town Library.

Town Meeting approved spending almost \$19 million on the project in 2021. Since that approval, factors including supply chain delays for materials and a labor shortage have increased construction costs across the country,

The Town rebid the Center project earlier this year. On April 25, the Community Center Building Committee voted to recommend M. O'Connor Contracting of West Roxbury, the lowest qualified bidder, at a cost of about \$25.4 million. The Board of Selectmen approved.

The Board has called a Special Town Meeting on Saturday, June 3 to address the Center project. The meeting will be called to order at 10 a.m. at Mudge Auditorium in Dover Sherborn High School.

In Article 1, voters will be asked to temporarily exceed the tax levy limit set by Proposition 2 ½ to pay for approximately \$6.6 million in additional project costs. In Article 2, voters also will be asked to temporarily exceed the levy limit to include \$174,000 in project costs for an outdoor recreation court and outdoor play area. Both articles require a two-thirds majority for approval.

These articles also will require ratification in a town-wide referendum scheduled for Monday, June 12. Polls will be open from 7 am to 8 pm in the Dover Town House. This question requires a majority vote for passage.

Should the debt exclusion be approved, the Town anticipates breaking ground in July with a projected opening in the fall of 2024.

Special Town Meeting also will consider Article 3, which seeks to staff the Center in the spring of 2024 to assist with preparation of the opening and ensuring programs are in place.

Once again, Dover Parks and Recreation will host a drop-off program for children in Grades K-5 whose parents or guardians wish to attend Town Meeting. The program will be led by Parks and Recreation summer

counselors, and is supported by Knucklebones. Drop-off begins at 9:30 a.m. Parents and guardians who are interested in dropping off their child may register using this link:

https://doverrec.activityreg.com/selectactivity_t2.wcs no later than Friday, June 2 at 12 p.m.

For those interested in additional information:

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about the project may be viewed here.

<https://www.doverma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2981/Community-Center-FAQs>

The April 25 Community Center Building Committee meeting may be viewed using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsoe8AVkZ-k>

The April 27 Board of Selectmen meeting may be viewed using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lOlhQ3q20vo>

The full presentation by Colliers Project Leaders may be viewed using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lOlhQ3q20vo>

Residents with questions about voting at Special Town Meeting or in the referendum may contact Town Clerk Felicia Hoffman at 508-785-0032, or townclerk@doverma.gov.

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