Latham Memorial Library, located in the center of the Town of Thetford, serves some 2500 Thetford residents. The Latham Library, together with the Thetford Historical Society, occupies the Thetford Bicentennial Building, constructed from 1973 to 1975 with local funds and federal grant money. Most library activities take place on the building main floor, but there is a recently renovated Meeting Room in the basement. Both the basement and building attic are used as a workplace and for storage by the Historical Society and the Latham Library. For almost 50 years the library has served its patrons through a well laid out and charming space.

There have been periodic improvements to infrastructure (new boiler, new roof) but major expenditures are expected for:

* Energy Efficiency - replace windows throughout the building or install additional panes; improve heating control. Energy efficient, effective, bright interior lighting is needed in all the Latham spaces.
* Human Health and Safety – install adequate ventilation (HVAC) throughout the building. The interior spaces in Latham should be more light and cheerful and inviting, so new paint, carpeting, furniture, curtains etc. are needed to make the space more effective and safe.
* Accessibility - For ADA (handicap access) compliance and easier work related traffic a building elevator is needed.
* Flexibility - The Covid 19 pandemic has demonstrated the need for alternative locations such as a covered, open outdoor space that can be used by people accessing the wireless network, as an outdoor program space, a gathering space and a teaching/learning space.
* Drainage/Landscaping – Better drainage around the building is needed to prevent water damage. Related landscaping could utilize native plants and provide recreational opportunities.

All the best,

Emily Zollo

Interim Director

Latham Memorial Library