

Current Library Building

Deficiencies:

The Library has conducted several self-assessments, recorded participant comments during a detailed planning study, and gathered information from several community listening sessions and public surveys citing the most significant challenges. The current Library building presents many issues that restrict the Library's ability to carry out its mission fully and to serve the community into the future. At a current 5,625 square feet, the most pressing problem is lack of space for:

- Quiet reading areas
- Individual or small group meeting spaces
- A dedicated, noise containing, Children's Room and activity center
- A meeting room that can seat more than 40 adults that does not also double as storage space
- Americans with Disabilities Act standard entrances, aisles and restrooms
- A staff break room and separate offices for the Youth Librarian and Adult Services Librarian

In addition to these needs:

- Book stacks are full and the top and bottom shelves are difficult for patrons and staff to reach or browse
- Space is severely limited for displays of local history collections, art, information, brochures, events and activities, new books, DVDs, audio books, activity kits and new items
- Lack of storage space is critical. The meeting room is cramped with chairs, tables and materials. Other items not needed on a regular basis are stored in an outdoor storage pod next to the Library
- Overflow storage is squeezed into the already overcrowded staff room and hallways. The Department of Labor has banned the use of the attic for storage because of the hazardous spiral staircase
- The space recently allocated for teens also quadruples as quiet study space, a small conference room, and town records storage.
- The HVAC system is more than 30 years old and the ductwork is not energy efficient.
- There is an insufficient number of electrical outlets and charging stations, and WiFi is spotty in all areas of the Library.

Past warrant articles have addressed building issues including:

- Parking lot (August 2016)
- Roof (2015)
- New LED lights (September 2017)