



## Town of Island Falls

# *Growing Into Modern Times*

### Decisions

We're going to have a busy summer. In the next few months we will be having a series of Town Meetings, Hearings, and Votes to discuss several key topics and give our residents an opportunity to decide how we should proceed.

Hinch Land Purchase: We currently own 87.5% of our forest land. The remaining 12.5% of the common/undivided portion is currently owned by two of the Hinch heirs. We have reached a tentative agreement with both heirs to sell their portion. The Town must decide by vote to complete the purchase. As we discussed in the previous land purchase, money has been set aside in a special "partition account" from our forest revenues. This money plus a bank loan will be used to pay for the property. The loan will be repaid through the forest revenues and will not impact our current tax rate.

Town Garage: During our annual Town Meeting, money was approved to build a Town Garage. An opportunity has been presented to purchase a much larger building with surrounding property for the same amount. We must vote to decide to build or buy. Since the money has already been approved, there will be no impact on taxes.

Comprehensive Plan: The Planning Board, Select Board, and various committees have been working with Eastern Maine Development (EMDC) to develop a Comprehensive Plan (discussed in Newsletter 9) that maps future development for our community. The Plan is nearing completion and we would like to your thoughts and comments before it is finalized and sent to the State. Anna Stockman of EMDC will make a presentation on the results.

Sewer System: It is now time to make a decision to proceed with the development of a sanitary sewer system (discussed in Newsletter 8) or let the project die. Jim Lord of Dirigo Engineering will discuss the project and answer questions at a Town Meeting July 13<sup>th</sup>. A formal public hearing is scheduled for August 10<sup>th</sup> and a ballot vote will be held on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Please check our website and information board for the schedule of these important meetings. We look forward to your participation.

*Tony*

Anthony Binotto  
Selectman – Town of Island Falls