

Town Board Discussion/Action Regarding the Old Town Hall from the 100713 Chairman's Report

- Old Town Hall Discussion of possible purchase – K. Seward noted that we notified The Old Town Hall Preservation Society that we are not interested in their offer to fix the building at this time because we are still not sure what the use of the building will be.

J. Hoesly reported that he talked to approximately 10-20 town residents and did not find anyone who is in favor of purchasing the Old Town Hall. With that in mind, he would have a hard time voting to purchase the building unless he was convinced otherwise.

C. Narveson has a hard time since the issue cleared the Annual Meeting he felt the issue should have gone to referendum.

K. Seward noted that if the Town had clear direction from the Village and the Library we would have a use for the building. K. Seward noted that he encouraged some members of the library board to secure the property in the middle. If that were done, we could move on purchasing the Old Town Hall.

C. Narveson noted that we cannot buy the property until next year because it is not in this year's budget.

Jim McGuire noted that there were enough people at the meeting to support buying the Old Town Hall because that's the way the vote went. He reiterated that the library portion of the decision is important but maybe the Town should consider using the building for its Town Hall again.

K. Seward clarified that at the Annual meeting we received authorization to buy the Old Town Hall if we choose to buy it. The legal interpretation of that is we are not required to buy it. The other side of the motion tied the purchase of the Old Town Hall with the concept of working with the Village for a library on that site.

Jim McGuire was under the impression that directive from the annual meeting was to buy the Old Town Hall. K. Seward re-read the original motion and explained that the final motion stated a two part authorization to purchase the old town hall site and pursue with the best interest of the community the development of a library in that area.

R. Elkins reiterated that the motion gave the town the authority to purchase the building but did not require the Town Board to do so. He suggested that if there was a community feeling towards preserving the building as a monument without a particular use, then that should be decided in a referendum. K. Seward confirmed that the Town could do an advisory referendum or a binding referendum. K. Seward asked for clarification, was R. Elkins saying if the Village decides not to use this site for a library, should the Town ask the constituents via referendum to purchase the building for a future town hall? R. Elkins expressed concern that he hasn't seen much movement from the Village and Library Board direction to take positive steps in nailing the property down. Without that input a referendum would get the desire of the populace. K. Seward felt that the Village and Library Board had shown interest in the location, but just haven't met yet.

- C. Narveson moved to table the issue until we have feedback from the Village and Library, D. Streiff 2nd. Motion carried.