

Ashland Town Library
Emergency Meeting of Ashland Library Trustees
January 9, 2014

Trustees Present: Alice Staples, David Ruell, Lynn Davis, Mardean Badger (alternate, non-voting)
Others Present: Sara Weinberg, Library Director

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 8:01 am, at the Ashland Town Library. The meeting was posted and convened as an emergency meeting because of action that must be taken to meet legal bond issue process deadlines.

Old School Building

- On the afternoon of January 8, 2014, the Trustees received the appraisal report for the Old School property at 41 School Street. In order to meet legal timelines for a petition warrant article and posting for the required bond hearing, a decision needed to be made today on our offer to Tri-County Community Action Program (TCCAP) for the purchase of the property.
- **A motion was made by Alice Staples, and seconded by Lynn Davis, to offer TCCAP \$850,000 for the purchase of the building at 41 School Street to serve as the Ashland Town Library. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote (3-0).** An email was sent during the meeting to Chip Brown with the offer.
- The wording of the petition warrant article was reviewed and the Trustees agreed that the amount on the petition would be \$950,000, which will include \$850,000 for the purchase of the building and \$100,000 (as previously discussed) for renovating and furnishing the building.
- A minimum of 25 registered voters must sign the petition. The signatures must be turned in to the Town Office by Friday morning, January 10, in order to meet legal deadlines for advertising and scheduling the bond hearing. The Trustees will collect signatures
- **A motion was made by David Ruell, and seconded by Alice Staples, to authorize placing a copy of the petition in the Library. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote (3-0).**
- The bond hearing date has been set for Monday, January 20, at 7:00 pm, with an alternate date of January 21. January 21 is the last legal date allowed for a bond hearing. (Following the meeting, the Ashland Elementary School Library was reserved for both dates.)
- A question has been forwarded to the Town Office, regarding whether it is possible to withdraw the petition/warrant article if the purchase offer is rejected by TCCAP.
- The Trustees reviewed the deadlines for posting the bond hearing notice in a local newspaper. For the January 20 bond hearing, the notice must appear in a local newspaper on or before January 13 (7 days prior to the hearing).

Other Business

- Lead testing for library employees: The Speare Hospital has an occupational health program which can facilitate the lead testing for \$89 per person and bill the Library. David will check further on the process.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 am.

Minutes submitted by Mardean Badger