

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
OFFICES OF BORDEN, STEINBAUER, KRUEGER & KNUDSON, P.A
302 SOUTH SIXTH STREET, BRAINERD, MN 56401
May 26, 2023 8:30 A.M.**

Present: Don Hales; John Enright; and Virginia Knudson, Town Attorney
Absent: Justin Smith
Community Members Present: None

Don Hales called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to discuss the town hall project. Don Hales explained that at the April 1, 2023 Elector meeting, the bids were opened and it was learned that the cost is only about \$25,000.00 more to build a new building versus reconstruct the town hall. Because the current town hall building is about one hundred years old, it was determined that there were too many unknowns about the condition of the existing structure that the additional cost was acceptable.

The Electors made a motion to spend up to \$400,000.00 for a new town hall. No decision was made on what to do with the current town hall building or the parking lot.

The Board asked Attorney Knudson if there were any issues with spending additional funds for the removal of the existing town hall building. Attorney Knudson opined that since the vote was only regarding the new construction, that it would be appropriate for the Town to spend additional funds for the removal of the existing building.

The Board then discussed with Attorney Knudson the best method for removing the existing building. Don Hales said that the Deerwood Fire Department would burn the structure as a training exercise for the cost of the permits for the Department to do the burning. The Town would be responsible for removing any remaining ash and debris. John Enright expressed concern that given the historical significance of the building as an old schoolhouse, someone may wish to purchase it. Don Hales and John Enright agreed that an auction company would be contacted to obtain a bid to auction the structure.

There was also a discussion regarding what to do with any personal property that was not going to be retained by the Town. It was agreed that the personal property should be auctioned with the structure. A discussion was had regarding timelines and that the removal had to have a firm deadline so that construction could proceed in September. The Board will bring forward a more detailed plan on the auction at the next regularly scheduled Town Board meeting, at which time a vote will be taken on the plan for the auction.

A motion was made by John Enright to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 a.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Submitted by:

Virginia J. Knudson, Town Attorney

Supervisor: _____

Supervisor: _____

Supervisor: _____