

**EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Special Meeting Minutes – February 26, 2018**

The East Troy Community School District Board met in special session on February 26, 2018. The meeting was called to order by President Ted Zess at 6:07 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Martha Bresler, Dawn Buchholtz, Sue Frohling and Steve Lambrechts. Also present were Dr. Christopher Hibner, Kathy Zwirgzdas, a reporter, and 14 guests. Ted Zess read the open meeting statement indicating that the meeting is open to the public as required by state statute and that notice of the meeting had been sent to the media and/or posted.

***IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED***

---

A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Martha Bresler for approval of the agenda and the amended agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously.

***V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION***

---

John Finney spoke on behalf of Operation Greater East Troy (OGET) thanking the district for the meeting and the great schools. He explained the group has been looking into how to develop a community center with improved library and possibly senior living. They originally hoped to repurpose Chester Byrnes however the internal systems needing updating are not realistic or cost-effective. Part of the push the group sees now is the location of Byrnes being close to the downtown district. They desire a win/win/win – win for the community, school district, and community. They wrote a letter presented to the board and highlighted two items - hope the qualifications of any buyer are reflected; and try to raise a reasonable offer to the school district at a later point to recover funding.

Tony Barrett also spoke on behalf of OGET, stating the ideal location of the property and the idea to raise funds to secure a purchase of the land in the future.

Barb Holtz spoke on saying it is time for a community center/library/food pantry/senior center and will be helping to raise funds.

Theresa Barrett spoke as a member of Kiwanis and OGET there are small donations that do a great amount of good, but she is looking to expand that with a big project that will benefit kids in the community and feels the Byrnes site is the perfect site. She proposed if the District used the referendum funds now to demolish the building, they could put a proposal together later to buy the property and then the funds would not be tied to any required list, but rather unmarked funds.

***VI. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION –***

---

A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts, to adjourn to executive session at 6:28 for the discussion of offer(s) to purchase Chester Byrnes property as provided under s.s. 19.85(1)(e). Roll call vote – Steve Lambrechts – yes, Sue Frohling – yes, Martha Bresler – yes, Dawn Buchholtz – yes, Ted Zess – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

***VII. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION –***

---

A motion was made by Martha Bresler and seconded by Dawn Buchholtz to reconvene to open session at 7:17 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz to proceed with the demolition of Chester Byrnes. Martha Bresler seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Steve Lambrechts – yes, Sue Frohling – yes, Martha Bresler – yes, Dawn Buchholtz – yes, Ted Zess – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

***VIII. ADJOURNMENT***

---

A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Lambrechts