

April 8, 2002
6:00 P.M.
Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a special meeting on Monday, April 8, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Room.

Present: Mayor Bohannon, Commissioners Groshong, Lentz and John McClain.

Absent: Commissioner Dave McClain.

Mayor Bohannon opened the meeting and stated that the purpose for the meeting was that Commissioner Dave McClain previously made a motion to buy the building for \$1 and repair it for \$8,000. David Beach, Paula Beach and Randy Beach were present and presented the Commission with a copy of a proposal from John McMurphy from Sabetha. The proposal states that contractor would tear out the window and door, rebuild the wall with blocks, and tie the blocks into the brick wall at a cost of \$8,000.

Mayor Bohannon stated that she did not feel the City should purchase the building. This would set a precedent and other owners would want the same treatment.

Commissioner John McClain stated that the City should not spend money on this building because they have to repair their own buildings. However, he does not want to see the building torn down if it can be helped.

Commissioner John McClain inquired if the City could make a low-interest loan. Mr. Evans reported that they could not. There is a possibility of the City buying a CD with a reduced interest rate to offset the interest on a loan to the owners, if the banks are agreeable.

Commissioner Lentz stated that possibly HIDC could help with a low-interest loan. Carl Gasper, President of HIDC said that they could re-visit the issue but there would be strict guidelines and the owners would have to have a plan of action, show they can insure the building and show plans for use of the building once it is repaired in order to repay the loan.

It was noted that the sewer problem has been repaired.

Some of the comments from the citizens present were, "What happened to the insurance money?"; "Have you revisited buyers with this \$8,000 bid?"; "What would the City do with the building if they did buy it?".

Commissioner Groshong stated that he would like to see the community work together to do some fundraisers to assist the owners.

Ms. Beach stated that the building has been for sale since April 1999.

Motion by Mayor Bohannon that the City not purchase the building at 823 Central and to recommend the owners go to HIDC for assistance. Seconded by Commissioner John McClain. All aye.

Motion by Mayor Bohannon to adjourn at 6:28 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner John McClain. All aye.

Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

Jeanne Thomas-Bohannon, Mayor